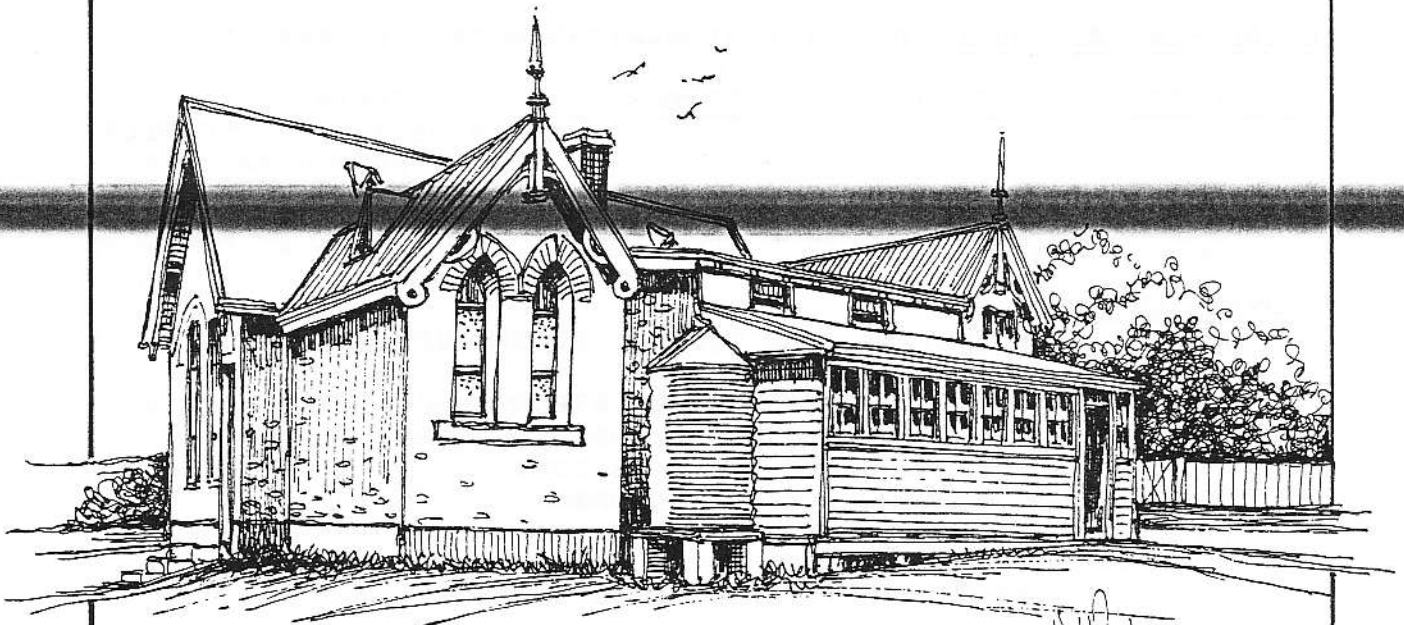




THE JOURNAL OF
PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
INCORPORATED
MUSEUM NEWS



PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOL - 1877

*Val Anderson
96.*

JUNE 1996 - VOLUME 3 #4

ISSN - 1321 - 4438

PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

Affiliated with the ROYAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: Cameron Archer

PATRONS:

SECRETARY: Pauline Clements

MR M MORRIS OA

ASS. SECRETARY: Geof. Keppie

MR R BALDWIN

TREASURER: Shirley Threlfo

MR P BLACKMORE

VICE PRESIDENT: Maurice Dunlop

MR A FAIRHALL

JOURNAL: Pauline Clements - Val Anderson

MR L KIDD

MUSEUM CURATOR: Val Anderson - Committee

MR G SEMKIN

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR: Bill Anderson

RECORDER: Mabs Keppie

SURVEILLANCE OFFICER: Clive Corbett

RESEARCH OFFICERS: P CLEMENTS S THRELFO M KEPPIE V ANDERSON

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

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

(c) ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

COMING EVENTS:

AUGUST 1 - MEETING - ED TONKS - SLIDE EVENING
LAMBTON COLLIERY
OUTING - EAGLEREACH RESORT and PATERSON
SEPTEMBER 5 - MEETING - GENERAL BUSINESS - BOB JAMES
WORKING BEE - ALL WELCOME!
OCTOBER 3 - MEETING - KEVIN MCDONALD
HUNTER BOTANIC GARDENS
OCTOBER OUTING DATE CHANGED DUE TO LONG WEEKEND
DATE and OUTING - TO BE ARRANGED

LOCAL HISTORY PUBLICATIONS:

Now available for sale - GEORGE BOYLE WHITE
1802 - 1876

HERITAGE ADDRESS - 1995
Harry F Boyle OAM

This publication has been assisted by funds allocated to the ROYAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY by the MINISTRY for the ARTS, NEW SOUTH WALES.

COVER: Paterson Public School, sketch taken from a file photograph after additions were completed in 1909. Additions referred to by Mrs Birt when interviewed by Mabs Keppie - page 2

SOME PATERSON MEMORIES: MABS KEPPIE

Paterson memories and anecdotes as told by Mrs Birt to Mabs Keppie in 1977. Mrs Birt, daughter of old identity Thomas Butler spoke about the period 1904-1914 when the family lived on Baldy Hill, back of Hungry Hill.

Mrs Birt was born at Woodville in 1896, her father, Thomas Butler had a bullock team and worked away all week around Gresford.

GETTING TO SCHOOL:

Mrs Birt rode a horse (with brothers and sisters) down to William Tucker's "Brisbane Grove", walked to the river bank where Jack Heard Snr of Paterson met them in a rowing boat and took them across the river near the wharf where they stepped out onto a large rock sticking out from the bank.

Mrs Birt remembered one day as she was stepping out, Mr Heard was distracted by the other children and let the boat move out and she fell into the river. She went to school "looking like a drowned rat"!

THE SCHOOL:

The school had two rooms, Mr Ross had the big room and Miss Elsworthy the little children. They had to move into temporary quarters (an old house next to the bakers (Bridges) while another room was added.

THE TOWN:

Cann's had a large store. Jim Cann had a shop at "Tillimby". Mr Doyles butcher's shop was near the Union Shed and Phillip's newspaper shop opposite the Court House Hotel (Wilson's had this hotel).

Herb Patfield was Captain of the "Marie". Mrs Birt, her mother and sister (Ella Vogele) used to go on a Sunday picnic excursion to Raymond Terrace on the "Marie".

Couper and Danks were the Police Officers.

Dr Bennet had a surgery in Doyles house next to the Union Shed.

Mrs Wells was midwife, she lived in the two story house in Commercial Road.

There was a mixed shop near the large fig tree at Paterson Bridge run by people called, Arnolds.

PRIVATE SCHOOL:

A lot of Paterson children, Doyles, Audry Brown (Ron's sister) Corners and Dorrie Fry went to a private school in the old house Rene Butler lived in (next to Ross McGill's). It was run by three Miss Hogans; one taught violin, one singing and the other the three "R's".

Mrs Birt's mother was a Keating from Morpeth, she died aged 99. Mrs Birt's great grandmother was a Sinclair from Edinburgh who lived to be 101.

HIGH FLOODS: MAITLAND MERCURY EXTRACT - 5.5.1870 - Jack Sullivan

"Several very old hands with whom I have been in communication state that they have seen far higher floods here than even the flood in August, 1857, that being the highest we have experienced within the last thirty years. One old hand informed me he had seen one flood reach to the door-step of the old Bush Inn. Such a flood to reach that height, must have exceeded in height the great flood of August 1857 by over twenty perpendicular feet. The same informant described many places where the flood waters reached on that occasion, and by which it would appear the whole hill on which our town is situated must have been covered at that time. I have no reason to doubt the truth of this information, for its truth has been verified by several old hands - one of whom fixes the period of this last great flood as in 1829. I also remember an old sawyer pointing out to me on one occasion a high spot, now in King Street, opposite Major Johnstone's old house from which he said his tent was washed away, and from which he towed a raft of cedar which they had been sawing up. The height of this would bring the water somewhat on the same level as that described by my informant the other day which he said reached the old Bush Inn" (Five years later the disastrous 1875 would come!)

GLEN OAK - MARTINS CREEK ROAD: MOIRA SAUNDERSON and
JACKIE YOULDON

"Gloucester Examiner" 21 January 1910

Letter to the Editor;

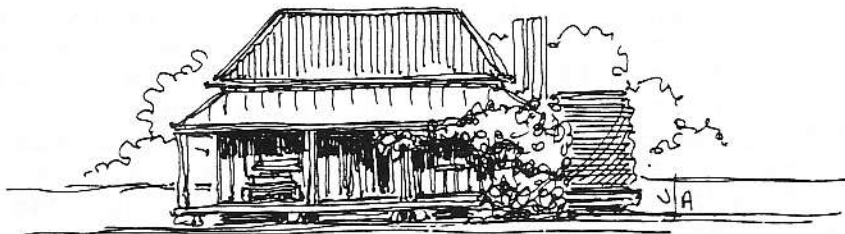
Sir, I once more crave a small space of your valuable journal in reply to "Numskull" of January 14th, as he still persists in endeavouring to prevent the advance of our district by using his great influence and writing untruths about the above road, thereby trying to make out that it is impossible to use the same. However, for Numskull's information I can tell him that I am willing to put a bit of silver (if the police are not too close) into some responsible person's hand if Numskull will cover the same, and ride over the above road from Clarencetown school house to Martin's Creek school in considerably less time than an hour; that would be much better than driving Numskull's billy goat that he talks about, and which I think would be more appropriate for him to follow than the course he is pursuing in trying to prevent people getting their just rights - a road to their homes.

Now, Mr. Editor, he asks me to inform the people what the road is used for and how many bona fide landholders use the road in question.

Leaving the Clarencetown road at the Glen Oak School of Arts, for I claim this part of the road in question as the ratepayers money goes to repair same, you leave Mr. J. Bruce on the right, Mr. D. Plesner on the left, Oakendale Homestead and several tenants or workman also on the right; a little further on Mr. Salmon on the left; a mile or so further brings you to Charlton, a property rented by Mr. W. Holmes, and at present two very large dairies are working on the same system, and which I am informed are very successful to both parties concerned, the cream being taken to Glen Oak Wharf. A mile further and you are out of the Charlton estate on to Mr. Vogele's properties. Here, Mr. J. Smith is in charge of one of the dairies and also the fruit market garden. This produce goes into Paterson. On the left hand you leave Mr. Vogele's apology for a road, through Mr. Gible's land, of which part is rented by Mr. Escott and the remainder he uses for grazing. A little further on the left is Mr T. Smith's dairy and orchard joined by Messrs. H. and G. Estcott, both dairy and orchard also. Over the hill to the right is the home of Mr. H. Estcott Snr., and family occupying dairy and large orchard. Joining Mr. Estcott's property is Mr. W. Robinson's dairy and orchard. After leaving Mr. Gible's you are into Mr. T. Martin's and from there through Mr. F. Martin's. This is the worst part of the road in question, and what is known as Black Rock; but here a good grade could be obtained by going a little to the right instead of straight over the hill top at the foot of which is a very good road - in fact it is the main road.

(Escott/Estcott as taken from the article)

In the Applications for the establishment of Provisional School's at Muldoon's Flat and Martins Creek Henry Eastcott's surname was signed with an inclusion of "a".



"MOUNTAIN VALE" - ROBINSON FARM
MARTINS CREEK

The third of seven cottages
built by the Robinson family
ON "MOUNTAIN VALE"

FROM HARRY BOYLE: "Something for the Bulletin"

His Excellency
the Governor

Parramatta,
21st July, 1824

Sir,

Enclosed I forward a certificate of being in possession of the land granted to me by Your Excellency, also a list of the Government men employed on the same land together with my family and have to request an order for the six months rations allowed by the Government.

George Frankland	John Mahony)	
Mrs George Frankland	Peter Riley)	all
One Child	Barney Henry)	on
Catherine Rutter (free)	Thomas Connor)	Isabella 1
Catherine Huf	Michael Fox)	
John Martin (Prisoner)	Michael Haby)	
His Wife and two children (free)	Thomas Fox	Malabar

I have the honour

Sir,

to be

Your most obedient servant

George Frankland

(Mowbray, Vacy was originally known as "The Vineyards" when it was granted to George Jackson Frankland on August 25th 1823. Mr Frankland died an untimely death, aged 33 years on December 1st 1825. He left his wife with two young children. After attending to the necessary legalities, Mrs Frankland and her children returned to England in May 1826. D V Collison - MOWBRAY)

Following his reading of Pauline Clements interesting article on "Gibb's Farm" in the February issue of "Museum News" Colin Sexton has offered this explanation as to how the two tallwood trees came to be planted in front of his home:- at a date unknown to Colin, Herb Fry planted the avenue of tallwoods opposite and along the road to the "Valentia" entrance, two trees were left over and just planted in a casual manner in front of Gibb's Farm to thrive into the beautiful trees they are today.

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS!

CROWD CONTROLLER: It has taken some time to fill this all-important position in our Society, however after close observation and noting the subtle manner in which she can handle people (in particular the Sullivan lad), it gives us much pleasure to announce that Sue Sokoloff will fill the position of CROWD CONTROLLER, SO ABLY HELD IN THE PAST by June Mayne. (Don't get too excited Sue, the money isn't big and you supply your own whistle! Added congratulations to Sue on your "YOUNGY THEN AND NOW" - the story of Young Wallsend / Edgeworth, well done!)

KEEPER OF THE CLOCK: How relieved we all were when Phil Leak offered to wind the Court Room ^{CLOCK} weekly following Clive Corbett's shift to Newcastle - many thanks Phil!

SPECIAL THANKS: To Mabs and Bill Keppie who rejuvenated the leather articles in the Saddlery Room upstairs in the Court House at our last working bee.



● Labour of love . . . Mrs Pauline Clements with her 200-page book about St Paul's Cemetery.

Historical labour of love

A WOMAN'S three-year labour of love has produced a valuable historical document on the small rural township of Paterson.

Pauline Clements, a proud Paterson resident and secretary of the town's historical society, has just completed a 200-page book on the historic St Paul's Church Cemetery.

The book contains a listing of

burials at the cemetery since 1845, photographs of the 600 plus grave-stones and notes on many of the people buried there.

To write the book Mrs Clements and friend Shirley Threlfo spent hours researching burial registers at Newcastle University.

'The people of Paterson need to learn about the town's history,' Mrs Clements said.

MAITLAND MERCURY 12.6.1996

Paterson society honour for three

PATERSON Historical Society has honoured three members with life membership.

President, Mr Cameron Archer, presented badges to treasurer Shirley Threlfo, curator Val Anderson, and projects director Bill Anderson at the society's monthly meeting at the Paterson Courthouse museum.

Shirley Threlfo is a foundation member of the society.

She has served as treasurer and secretary during the society's 22 years.

Val Anderson, one of the Hunter Valley's best-known artists, has been responsible for the high standard of exhibits in the museum in her role of curator.

Her Dorothea MacKellar display, mounted for Heritage Week this year, was widely acclaimed.

Her husband Bill has also been a staunch supporter of the museum. Mr Archer told the meeting that Bill's efforts had enabled the museum to make the most of the limited funds it had at its disposal.

The meeting was told that the Mitchell Library had given the historical society the large portrait of Dorothea MacKellar which had been on loan for the Heritage Week display.

It was felt appropriate that this be in the society's collection, as it operates the museum closest to Torryburn, where the author of *My Country lived*.

The photograph will be hung behind the bench in the courtroom.



■ Paterson Historical Society's new life members, treasurer Shirley Threlfo, projects director Bill Anderson and curator Val Anderson.

OUR GOOD NEWS:

Paterson Historical Society Inc has been awarded a grant for \$750 from the 1997 Bicentenary Events Corporation towards a publication on the Dorothea Mackellar - Torryburn - Paterson Valley Connection.