

MUSEUM



MUSEUM NEWS

THE JOURNAL OF
PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
INCORPORATED



MANCHESTER UNITY ORDER of ODDFELLOWS BANNER
PATERSON COURT HOUSE

JUNE 1997 - VOLUME #3

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PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

Affiliated with the ROYAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR: Bill Anderson

RECORDER: Mabs Keppie

SURVEILLANCE OFFICER: Clive Corbett and Phil Leak

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

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MUSEUM SUNDAY ROSTER:

If you would like to join us. if only for one or two days per year, you will be most welcome - you would not be alone. your partner would be from our regular team who are familiar with our museum routine.

Our visitors are usually Sunday drivers who browse and chat, any enquiries historically are followed through by our researchers. The museum is well detailed and of casual presentation. Please call Pauline Clements on 382183 or Val Anderson on 434526 for more information.

Special thanks to members who are available each Sunday for Museum Duty. P C H M is open each Sunday from 1pm.

C Archer - M & M Dunlop - P Clements - S Threlfo - M & B Keppie
P Leak - V & B Anderson - P Sivyer - K Lyall.

MUSEUM NEWS COVER:

The Paterson Lodge Banner at its unofficial 'launch' by President Cameron Archer. On display for the Launch Day were the original timber banner box c1902, the original fabric surround (replaced during conservation), the only two photos of the banner on public display (Paterson and Gresford) and the Town Charter. photo Bill Anderson



photo Bill Anderson

BANNER LAUNCH DAY - 25 MAY 1997
Allan Fairhall-Perry Landy-Else Boyle-Cameron Archer
Harry Boyle-Wilf Watts

At last the Lodge Banner is on display in our Museum!

After almost two years of worry and frustration, the Manchester Unity Order of Oddfellows Banner, given to the Society almost ten years ago, is on display... bringing to light again all the wonderful colour and artistry which would have thrilled the Lodge Members at the turn of the century when the Banner was first unfurled.

The Unveiling Ceremony was held on Sunday 25 May before more than seventy invited guests, many of them Lodge Members who donned their colourful Regalia for the occasion adding greatly to the atmosphere of the day. It was plain to see from the words of Lodge Officials just how much they appreciated our efforts in having the Banner restored, and our display of the other Lodge memorabilia donated by families of deceased Lodge Members. It would seem to be a rare exhibition among Museums.

As well as the many Lodge Members present, our local Parliamentarians, Bob Baldwin and Peter Blackmore attended and were complimentary on the size and scope of our Museum. Our Local Mayor and other Council Representatives were also present.

The thanks of the Society must go to members, Val and Bill Anderson for the part they have played in the Banner restoration. From the tedious hours spent in preparing the Grant Applications for the project to the actual hanging of the Banner, they have been a driving force and can be pleased for a job well done.

Many of our members contributed to preparations for the day and worked untiringly on THE DAY - thank you to all!

Pauline Clements
EDITOR

HERITAGE ADDRESS PUBLICATIONS: CAMERON ARCHER

Jack Sullivan's 1996 Heritage Address-" George Townshend - 1798 - 1872 and Trevallyn, PATERSON RIVER" is now printed and available from the Society, Mc Donalds Book Store, MAITLAND Newcastle Regional Library and by mail order @ \$15 (plus \$4 p&h) 108 pages - 28 photos and maps etc.

Jack Sullivan is one of the few people who are really qualified to write on George Townshend. Jack's knowledge of the region, plus his overall historical knowledge through extensive research enabled Townshend's life to be placed in the context of the times.

Perhaps the most significant to us as members of the Paterson Historical Society is Townshend's continual lobbying and agitation for public land at the navigable limit of the Paterson River. With out Townshend's work and persistence there would have been no village of Paterson.

I commend this history of George Townshend to you.

HERITAGE ADDRESS 1997:

Cynthia Hunter's 1997 Heritage Address-"The Settlers of Paterson's Plains" was presented to the Society 1 May 1997.

Cynthia's monograph will provide a historical context for the interpretation of archaeological remains which may be found on any of these historically sigficant sites. The work will be available to local government heritage officers for the evaluation of future developments in this area. The monograph will allow readers a better understanding of the European history of this locality, a unique location settled ten years before officially permitted settlement in the Hunter Valley.



HERITAGE ADDRESS 1997
CYNTHIA HUNTER - CAMERON ARCHER
Photo BILL ANDERSON

(Paterson Historical Society is indeed fortunate to have as active members, Jack, photographer-author and Cynthia, author-consultant both acknowledged as leading Hunter Valley historians.)

BOTANICAL NAME CHANGE: BILL ANDERSON

RED CEDAR: Toona ciliata (formerly *Toona australis*)

I recently had the pleasure of a one-on-one tour of the Sydney Botanic Gardens. (Do not be overly impressed - I was filling in time while Val was at a botanical illustration course there, the weather was cold and wet and I was the only person to arrive at the public tour point! My added bonus was that the tour guide was a recently retired SBG botanist!)

A grand Red Cedar was pointed out to me during the tour. On hearing of our association with Paterson and the importance cedar had played in the establishment of this colonial outpost, my guide quickly corrected my references to *Toona australis* and explained that a name change had been necessary as *Toona australis* was not indigenous only to Australia so it had been renamed *Toona ciliata*.

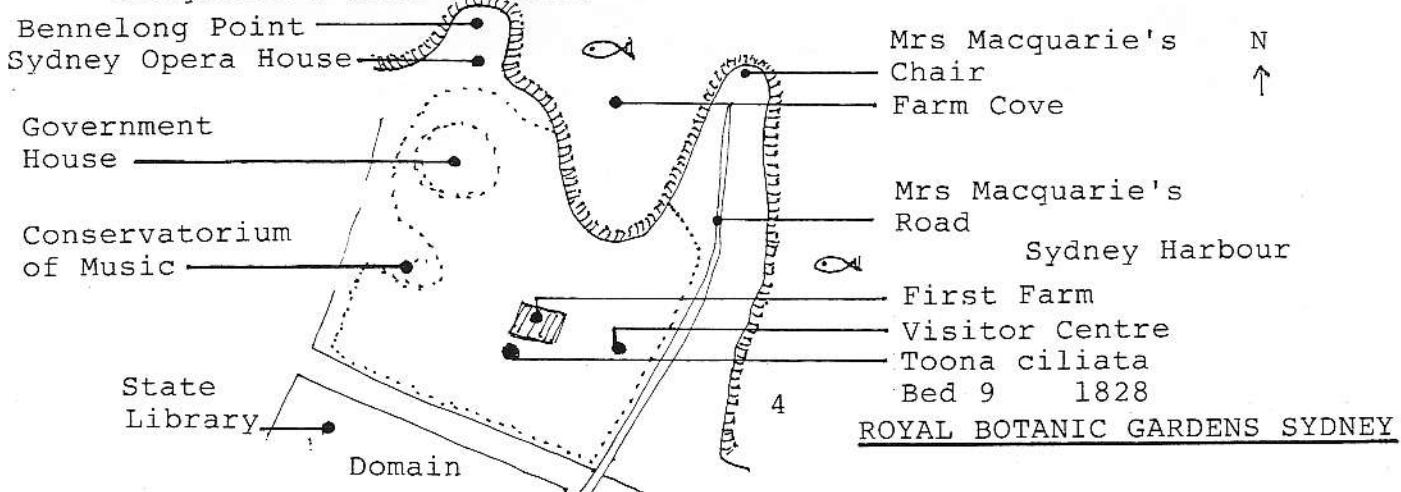
I explained our awareness of the tipmoth and the manner in which it stunted the cedar's growth. I also made mention that a seedling planted by Society member Pauline Clements in 1989 was now well over four metres high (admittedly it is growing near the 1862 well in the Court House grounds and is possibly getting some benefit from the well's overflow outlet).

Whilst waiting for more information from the SBG I did some further reading.

By 1806, after only 18 years of white settlement and the colony had nearly starved (because ships failed to arrive with supplies from England), George Howe, the first publisher in Australia produced a gardening handbook "The New South Wales Pocket Almanack and Colonial Remembrancer", the booklet giving a fascinating insight into the problems of living around Sydney in 1806. (Reprinted as "Australia's First Gardening Guide of 1806")

The Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney were 181 years old in June this year and are the third oldest Botanic Gardens in the southern hemisphere. Although Governor Lachlan Macquarie did not specifically "open" the gardens in 1816, this was the year of the completion of the "enclosure" of the area by a stone wall (much of it still there), and this has been taken as the founding date.

There is no record of early tree plantings, except what are thought to be the oldest street trees in Australia, a row of Swamp Mahogany, *Eucalyptus robusta*, planted by Jack Wright, a potato merchant to celebrate the completion of Mrs Macquarie's Road in 1816.



It is believed the oldest trees in the garden date back to the 1820's. In 1827, Charles Fraser, Colonial Botanist and the gardens first superintendant, together with Allan Cunningham whom Macquarie called the King's Botanist, collected seeds and living plants of many rainforest species in the Moreton Bay district of Queensland. On his return Fraser planted these on the western bank of Botanic Gardens Creek and several have grown into majestic trees.

As promised the botanical information arrived:

"The *Toona ciliata* (formerly *Toona australis*) was collected from the banks of the Brisbane River and brought back to Sydney Gardens by Charles Fraser and Allan Cunningham and was planted in 1828.

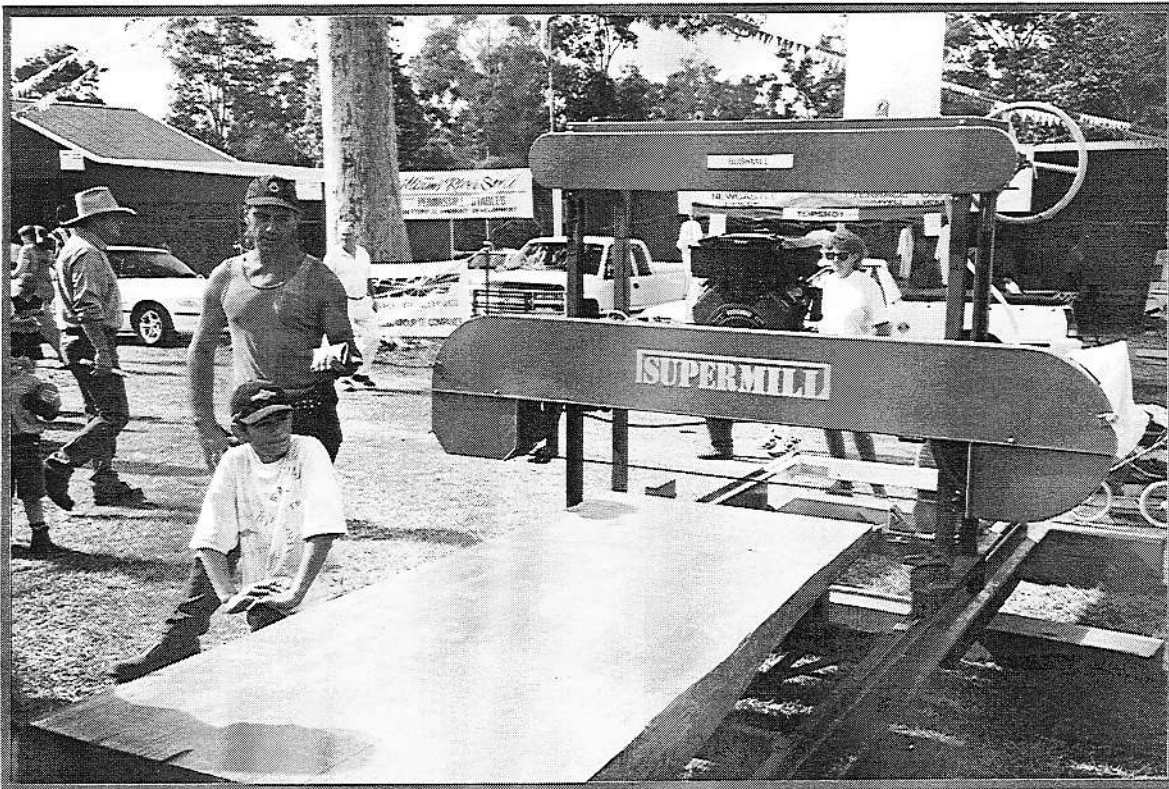
It still stands in Bed 9 which is where you would have seen it on the guided tour."

Louisa Murray

Identifications Botanist

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS SYDNEY

From the humble plantings in 1788 of "nine acres of corn" for food for the fledgling colony to a place of sanctuary for our heritage trees, the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney will continue with its national and international role among the great botanic gardens of the world.



NEW TOCAL EXHIBIT - 1997

Eric Zaska and son Daniel of "The Bakehouse", Paterson exhibited their portable "SUPERMILL" band saw for use in the forest at the 1997 Tocal Field Days.

The old red cedar stump exhibited on the mill was from a local area and was originally almost 4.0m (13 feet) in circumference (girth). photo Bill Anderson