



THE JOURNAL OF
PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
INCORPORATED
MUSEUM NEWS

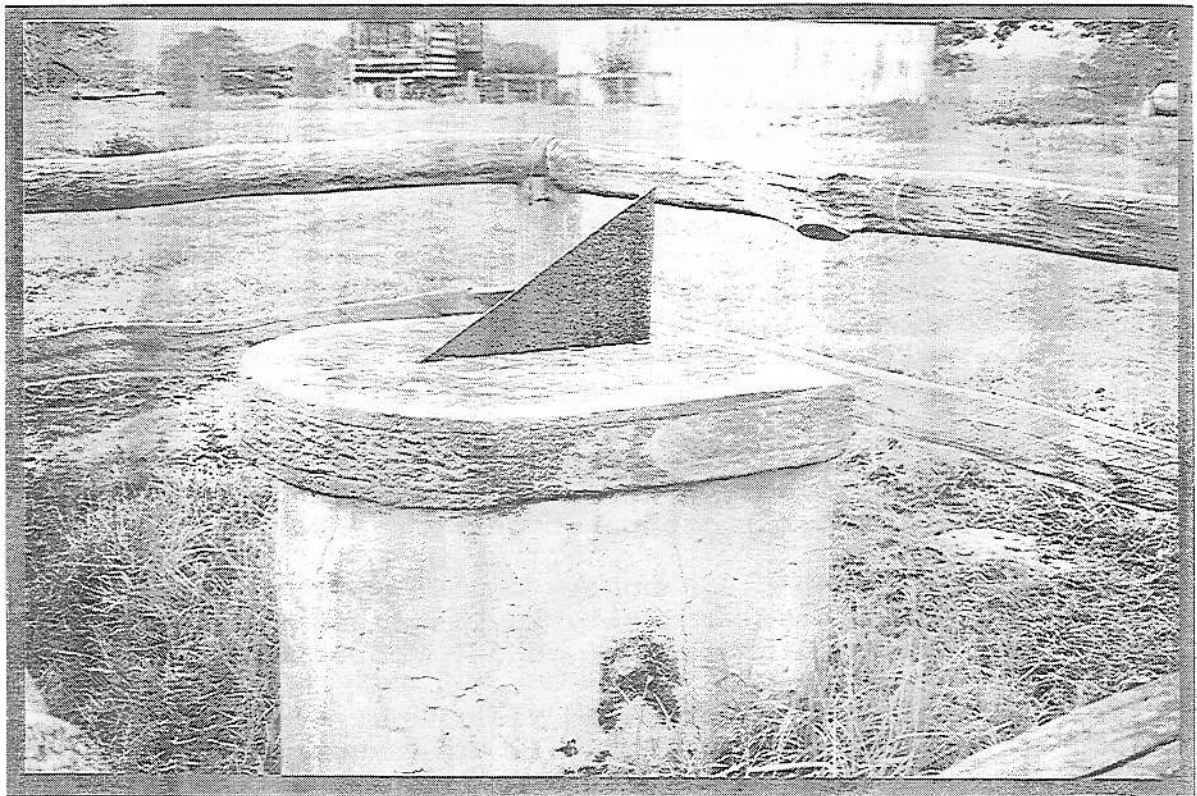


PHOTO - BILL ANDERSON

SUNDIAL - TILLIMBY ESTATE - PATERSON

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PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

Affiliated with the Royal Australian Historical Society Inc

PRESIDENT: Cameron Archer

PATRONS:

SECRETARY: Pauline Clements

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ASS SECRETARY: Pam Sivyer

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 SEMKEN

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR: Bill Anderson

RECORDER: Mabs Keppie

SURVEILLANCE OFFICER: Clive Corbett - Phil Leak

RESEARCH OFFICERS: P Clements SThrelfo M Keppie B Keppie
V Anderson

PATERSON COURT HOUSE MUSEUM is OPEN SUNDAYS from 1pm

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

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Annual Subscription due February each year

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

COVER PHOTO: TILLIMBY SUNDIAL

Tillimby was erected by J H Boughton (c1835) after occupying the
servant's wing that is now the only remaining section of the house
(in ruins). John Herring Boughton and his wife Charlotte arrived in
Sydney on the Fame 12 September 1822. He subsequently received a land
grant of 2000 acres in two portions on 12 October 1822 which he named
Tillimby (Tilimby-Jack Sullivan). The flat area behind the sundial
in the photo is the site of the original homestead.(Deamer-Archer)

WAVERLEY CEMETERY VISIT:

Jack Sullivan and Sue and Boris Sokolof visited Waverley Cemetery
recently to view the extent of the reported vandalism to the Mackellar
family grave. They were able to see the headstones from a distance,
their pace quickened, (actually they ran!) and on arrival at the plot
were greatly relieve to see the damage had been repaired and was
barely visible.

SALOME KEPPIE's DIARY: Bill Keppie

1867 Mr Greenchild was buried Thurs Nov 20th 1867.

1867 Mr Bearly's girl got burnt on Friday Nov 22nd and died on
Sat 22nd 1867.

1867 William Kimber died Monday Dec 9th 1867 - married 5 months.

1868 Blind Blake died suddenly in Singleton Monday Jan 20th 1868

1868 John Dah found drowed on Sunday Feb 21st 1868. Left wife
and four children.

1894 Mr John Tucker married to Miss Munday - Sat 2nd June.

1895 Arthur Cory died Thursday 13 June, buried in the garden
at home.

1896 Bohemian Lecturer came Monday 4 May left Friday 8

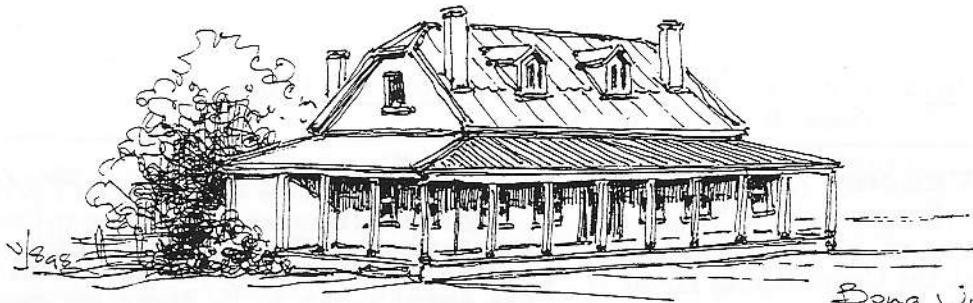
Gilbert Cory died June, buried in garden.

Went to Rosewood Brush Tuesday 30 June. Took lunch.

1897 Queens record 20 June, celebrated Tuesday 22 - Wet day -

Kids got a medal. Arthur, Pearl and Flo, Will stayed at farm
planted a tree in memory of the Queen.

(The tree was an English Oak which was blown down in a storm
during November 1987 - BK)



Bona Vista - 1876
PATERSON - NSW

OUR SOCIETY'S 25th ANNIVERSARY - 1999

It is appropriate, in our 25th year, that the 1999 Heritage Address will feature James Phillips, one of the district's early land grantees (Bona Vista 1822) and one who contributed so much to the development of Paterson. Guest presenter is to be Shirley Threlfo Society treasurer and Life Member.

In March next year the Society will host the 27th Annual Convention for Coastal and Hunter Region Historical Societies and our Museum will be a feature of the inaugural Paterson Citrus Festival.



Photo - Society files

PHS Hon Sec Pauline Clements Museum Opening Day

FROM SOCIETY'S FILES:

Following Cynthia Hunter's contributed article - "Move to Save Old Building" MN Oct 1997 - NMH 9 July 1970 - the following extracts from MM 1973/74/75 are of interest.

MM 27 July 1973:

Paterson Court House was to be handed to Paterson Preservation Society for use as it's headquarters. At the Society's first Annual Meeting on July 26 Dungog Shire Council President Cr J Hawley said he visualised the time when the building could be restored and housing exhibits to eventually become a tourist attraction.

1973 ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Pres W Northcott - VP S Priestley - Sec P Clements - Treas G Johnson.

PATERSON COURT HOUSE MUSEUM OPENS - 4 August 1974.

Members dressed in period costume, historic photos and memorabilia were mounted and displayed whilst veteran cars and antique clocks from Maurice Dunlop created much interest.

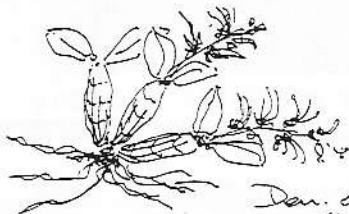
MM 13 February 1975:

At the Annual Meeting of the Paterson Historical Society (name change) members looked back on the first year with a great deal of satisfaction for the young society became a reality with the establishment of an interesting and unique museum.

1975 ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Pres G Johnson - VPs S Priestley, C Sexton, A Dunlop - Sec P Clements - Treas S Threlfo.

M/M PATERSON. TUES 22/4/1879

THE TEMPORARY COMMON.—On Tuesday evening last a meeting of the inhabitants of Paterson was held at the Court House Hotel, pursuant to advertisement, to elect trustees for the temporary common. Mr. William Keppie was called upon to preside. It will be in the recollection of the readers of the *Mercury* that a meeting for a similar purpose was held some months ago, but was adjourned for some information required. On Tuesday last, on the opening of the meeting, the correspondence in reference to this required information was read by the Secretary, which included the rules and regulations of the Singleton common. After some other preliminary business had been arranged, the meeting proceeded to nominate candidates for the trusteeship of the common, the result of which was the election of Messrs. William Keppie, John White, James Wells, Stephen Stanbridge, and Joseph Green Smith, who will hold their trusteeship until 1881, when a new election will take place, in accordance with the Commons Act of 1878. Arrangements were then made to forward the names of the persons elected as the Trustees to the Colonial Secretary, for confirmation, and to be gazetted. Some minor matters were then arranged, and after a vote of thanks had been tendered to the chairman the meeting separated.



Den aemulum
(ironbark form)

OUR NATIVE ORCHIDS:

Mabs Keppie believes this year will surpass the 1992-1993 season which had been outstanding for terrestrial orchids in the Paterson district. The epiphytic ironbark (*Den aemulum*) gems are in full blossom again on the Gresford Road - recorded by Rev Rupp in the 1920's, still there and still captivating. Society members, Mabs Keppie and daughter, Cathy Lyall cooked scones in the Homestead kitchen providing an alluring aroma and proving a popular attraction for the 600 plus visitors to the recent Total Homestead Open Day. It was interesting to watch the children said Mabs - with a choice of pumpkin or plain, few were tempted by the pumpkin variety however the adults were delighted by either.

...we can cope with 'droughts and flooding rain'
with kangaroos that eat the roses
rabbits and hares ringbarking small trees
but do the female Bowerbirds have to eat the blood and bone?

M/M PATERSON. 8/7/1879

RECREATION GROUND AND GENERAL CEMETERY FOR PATERSON.—We learn from official sources, that our indefatigable representative in the Legislative Assembly, Mr. H. H. Brown, has succeeded in getting placed upon the Supplementary Estimates, a sum of £500 for the purchase of a recreation ground for Paterson, and also a sum of £200 for the purchase of land for a general cemetery, and we further learn that ~~these sums~~ have now been voted by Parliament, and consequently after the passing of the Appropriation Act in a few days, these sums will be available for purchasing necessary sites for the purpose. The people of Paterson may congratulate themselves upon having such an indefatigable representative, who leaves no stone unturned to secure for his electorate every advantage which it is in his power to secure for them, whilst by his influence he is able to accomplish whatever he considers his electorate is justly entitled to. In regard to our recreation ground, no doubt the resolution of the Honorable member for Canterbury, Mr. John Lucas, which he introduced and unanimously carried in the Assembly, to enable the Government to provide, by purchase, recreation grounds to every village or town in the colony, when Government land was not available, paved the way for our esteemed member to lay claim, on our behalf, to the consideration of the Government, who placed the amount on the Estimates, and to the Parliament who voted the amount, for the purchase of land sufficient and suitable for the purpose, seeing no Crown lands are available within reasonable distance of our town for such a purpose. In regard to the cemetery, a general cemetery has long been wanted. A private cemetery belonging to the Church of England, and surrounding the church, is all that has been available for burying our dead, up to the present. Various complaints have frequently been made as regards the crowded state of the cemetery, and many allege that in summer weather an offensive odour is perceptible to many worshippers in the church, which is situated in the centre of the church yard. Therefore under all circumstances a burial ground for all denominations situated at a distance from the town, is a matter which will be no doubt appreciated by the whole of our community, and one which has long been needed.

THE MYALL CREEK MASSACRE

Shirley Threlfo

The month of June, 1998 marks the 160th Anniversary of one of the most brutal events in the history of New South Wales. In June, 1838 a group of Aborigines was murdered by stockmen at Henry Dangar's Myall Creek Station (between Bingara and Delungra). This event is remembered not only for the horror of the massacre, as aborigines had been killed before by white men with virtually no action taken, but also because there were men in authority prepared to bring the perpetrators to trial for the first time in forty years with the result that men were hung for the murder of these Aborigines.

At the beginning of 1838 in the area of the Gwyder and McIntyre Rivers there were hostile Aborigines defending their land, lifestyle and culture from the Europeans by attacking the stock, 'rushing' or scattering the cattle, taking sheep and cattle for food rather than hunt Kangaroo and other game. The stockmen, many of whom were convicts assigned to the Landowners or ex-convicts employed by them, were very afraid of these Aborigines because of their stealth and their almost silent weapons. There were also reports of attacks on and murders of white bushmen and shepherds and hutkeepers on the out-stations lived in fear of their lives from attacks by blacks and punishment from their masters if they neglected their duties.

The Government gave no assistance to the Stations although the country economically benefitted from the wool grown there. It was prepared to let the men take the law into their own hands knowing this meant the killing of the Aborigines. There was a Mounted Police Force but it was totally inadequate to cover the great expanse of country requiring protection.

Almost all of the stockmen involved in the massacre were either convicts or ex-convicts and to these men violence and brutality would have been part of their lives. Also the convicts, who were the despised of the community found, in the Aborigines, people on whom they could pass the hatred and cruelty meted out to them. They had heard that the Mounted Police were heading their way to control the Aborigines, often by killing them, and the stockmen thought their troubles would soon be over. But the Police were recalled to other troubled areas and once again they were on their own.

The men were completely demoralised and afraid. They lived in fear of their lives and the constant harassment by the Aborigines was unnerving. They tried to drive them away and kill them if necessary, actions condoned by their masters, but the Aborigines were elusive in the bush and this increased the stockmen's fear and frustration. They met one night in early June, 1838 and decided they had reached the end of their endurance and no doubt during the night their tension and hatred built up so that next morning they were psychologically ready for murder.

The next day they went after Aborigines but found none. However, they knew there was a group at Myall Creek who had been camped there for some weeks but had not caused any trouble. They went to that Station and the men, women and children there provided the release for their tensions and emotions and the stockmen most brutally and callously murdered those Aborigines because they were there, they were Aborigines and they wanted to rid the frontier and themselves of the menace and fear of them even though they knew these particular people had done nothing to them.

The stockmen did not expect the law to become involved and continued with their daily work and were easily apprehended following the arrival of Magistrate E.D. Day who had been appointed by the Government to investigate the massacre following advice to it by the Superintendent at Myall Creek, William Hobbs. For his part in reporting the murders and as witness at the trial Hobbs lost his job.

There was a growing feeling in the Colony and in Britain at this time for a softer approach and more protection for the Aborigines and this was reflected in the actions of Governor Gipps and Attorney General John Plunkett who were prepared to have the men involved in the massacre brought to trial.

The Country, however, was divided on the issue, some people believed the men should not be charged with the murder of Aborigines but others like Mrs. Eliza Hamilton Dunlop were extremely moved by the horror of the event and Mrs. Dunlop wrote a poem called 'The Aboriginal Mother'. The Squatters in particular were opposed to the trial and money was raised for the defence of the accused men. Newspapers at the time carried reports of the various opinions of the people.

The trial, however, did proceed against the men involved, although one man was never caught, but they were acquitted. A second trial was conducted with the result that on the 18th December, 1838 seven men were hanged for the murder of the Myall Creek Aborigines

Ref: Books - Denholm D The Colonial Australians Penguin 1979
 Harris A Settlers and Convicts Melb MUP 1953
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 Wiedmann E World of its Own: Inverell's Early Years
 1827-1920 Inv 1981

Journals: Denholm D 'The Myall Creek Massacre' Push from the
 Bush No 9 July 1981
 Webby E 'Reactions to Myall Creek Massacre'
 Push from the Bush No 8 December 1980

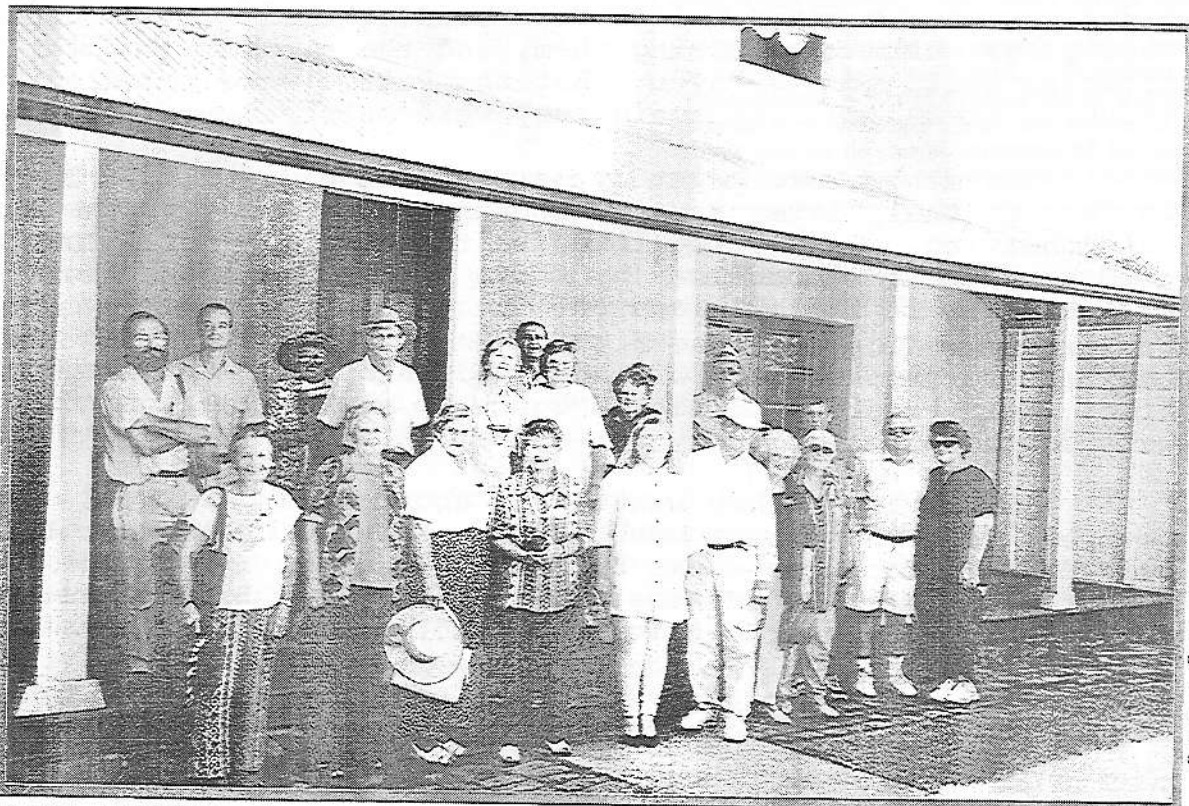


Photo - Mrs. ANDERSON

JOINT OUTING: Paterson and Raymond Terrace Historical Societies visiting Gundayn House and the Stroud district - April 1998

R A H S LITERARY GRANT:

The Society has been successful in receiving a \$1000 literary grant from the Royal Australian Historical Society / Ministry for the Arts NSW to publish Jack Sullivan's 1998 Heritage Address - "Charles Boydell". This is wonderful support and enables further primary research on the Paterson district to be published.

RECENT GUEST SPEAKERS - CYNTHIA HUNTER and PHIL LEAK:

Our Society has had the pleasure of two 'trips' to Antarctica this year - Cynthia Hunter's visit with husband Bill, whose father, John was chief biologist with the Mawson expedition in 1911-1914, and with Phil Leak showing his outstanding aerial slides of the icy mass. Phil also showed progress slides of his project to record the town of Paterson on film - well done Phil.

CONGRATULATIONS to member Kay Ingle who recently completed her Masters Degree in religious studies.

FROM SOCIETY'S FILES:

Pauline Clements solved a query regarding the removal of the bricked doorway connecting the police office to the Court Room in 1983. when police vacated the building and the office was officially handed to the Society by Dungog Shire Council, the building trustees. SIMPLE - COURT PROCEEDINGS WERE TOO NOISY SO THE DOORWAY WAS BRICKED IN.

LES DARCY MEMORIAL:

Life Member Harry Boyle is a happy man! Harry and his committee have reached their goal in raising \$50,000 towards a memorial for Maitland boxing hero, Les Darcy. From the initial newspaper notice for a church service placed by Harry in the Newcastle Morning Herald to a recent successful fund-raising dinner by his active committee, Harry's only comment about the project is that now he can sleep at night!

WAR MEMORABILIA:

At an extraordinary meeting of the Hunter Chapter/Museums Australia held at the Newcastle Regional Museum in August, members were privileged to view a piano and handmade puppets used for entertaining by Australian prisoners of war at Changi during WWII.

LOCAL HISTORY - MAITLAND MERCURY:

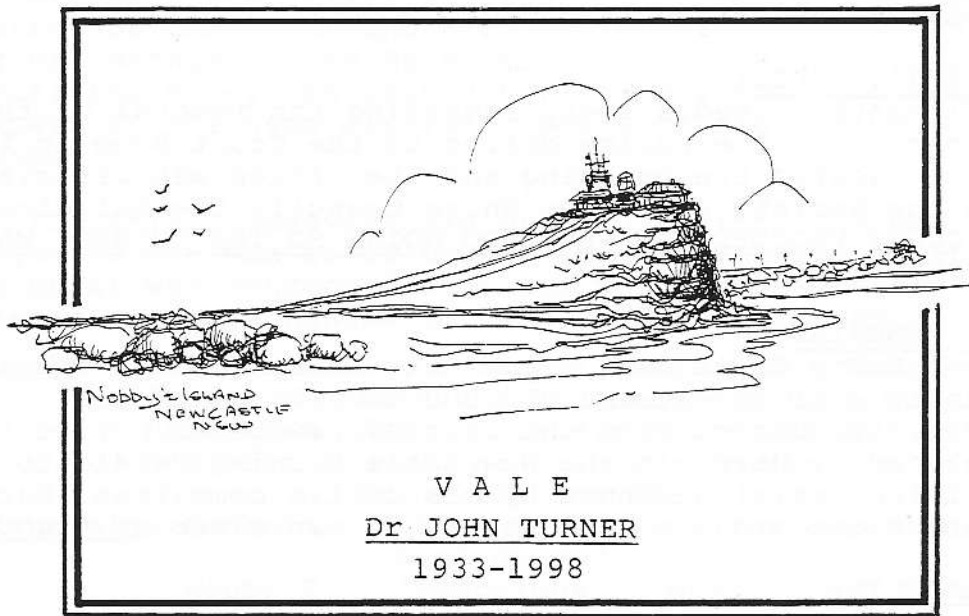
A request from Jenny Hawke of the Maitland Mercury for the Society to contribute regular historical articles with photos on the Paterson district has been well received. To date, contributors have been Shirley Threlfo, Pauline Clements, Cythia Hunter, Val Anderson and Andy Burg. The Mercury has always been most supportive of our Society and this is much appreciated.

MUSEUM OPENINGS:

Special thanks to Mabs and Bill Keppie, Pauline Clements and Clive Corbett who have opened the Museum on numerous occasions lately. (Clive met one group on the train to Paterson, suggested a visit, opened the Museum and gave them morning tea as well!). President Cameron also entertained a visiting group who had been lunching in John Tucker Park - 59 in all!.

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS:

The lovely rural Church of St Anne's Gresford celebrated its Centenary in June this year. Guest speaker at the Celebration Dinner was President Cameron Archer who launched a Centenary Book written by local historians Hazel Hancock and Freda Collison.



Many of our members knew and respected John for his contribution to local history throughout our region.

His passing is a great loss,
he will be sadly missed.