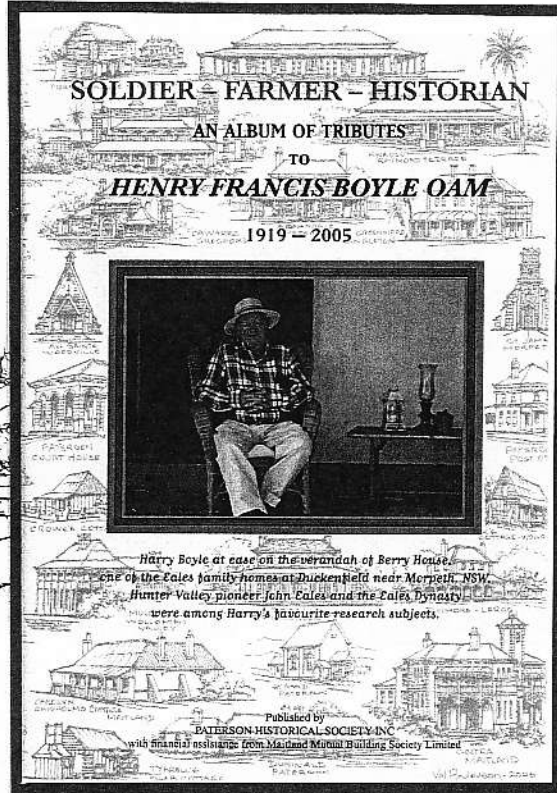


**THE JOURNAL OF
PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
INCORPORATED**

MUSEUM NEWS



"CAWARRA"
GRESFORD
NSW



"GREENWOOD"
SINGLETON
NSW

**SOLDIER - FARMER - HISTORIAN
AN ALBUM OF TRIBUTES
TO
HENRY FRANCIS BOYLE OAM
1919-2005**

LAUNCHED
25 NOVEMBER 2006
ST ANNS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PATERSON COURT HOUSE MUSEUM

THE AIM OF THE PATERSON COURT HOUSE MUSEUM
IS TO HOLD ITEMS IN TRUST
FOR THE PATERSON COMMUNITY
THE HUNTER VALLEY AND AUSTRALIA

VOLUME 14 # 1 ISSN 1321 4438 FEBRUARY, 2007.

Affiliated with:

Royal Australian Historical Society

Museums Australia - Hunter Chapter

RURAL MUSEUMS

are a reflection of their community's identity

PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. EXECUTIVE 2006

AFFILIATED with Royal Australian Historical Society Inc. and Museums Australia Inc.

PRESIDENT: Cameron Archer

SECRETARY: Pauline Clements

TREASURER: Shirley Threlfo

VICE PRESIDENT: Kathy Lyall

JOURNAL: Pauline Clements, Val Anderson & Shirley Threlfo

MUSEUM CURATORS: Val Anderson & Bill Keppie

PROJECT COORDINATOR: Bill Anderson

RECORDER: Mabs Keppie and Shirley Threlfo

PUBLIC OFFICER: Cameron Archer

RESEARCH COMMITTEE: P Clements, S Threlfo, M & B Keppie, J Sullivan, C Archer, V Anderson, R Stevenson.

PATRONS

Mr M Morris OA

Mr R Baldwin MP

Mr J Price MP

Mr G Wall

Mr G Semken

MEETINGS: First Thursday of each month—7.30 pm at the Paterson Court House Museum.
(Recess December/January)

MEMBERSHIP FEES: Annual subscriptions due February each year. \$5. Single \$10. Family.



VALE – ALLAN JAMES FAIRHALL – aged 68 years – Society Patron and supporter for many years. Allan will be sadly missed by all in this very close community of Paterson.



- **2007 is here!** We are set for another good year working at our own pace and enjoying friendships and challenges – the museum looks great – finances are good – our quality literature program is moving along nicely – the septic tank is fixed (thank you DUNGOG SHIRE COUNCIL) and Robin's new refrigerator finally arrived!
- **All energies** will centre on the March 3 Annual RAHS Conference hosted by our society, a large undertaking by our small group however preparations are well in hand.
- **A large contingent** from Ku-ring-gai Historical Society visited our district in November touring and lunching at Tocal – visiting the museum followed by a conducted tour of the village – overnight at Maitland and then on to Singleton. (They are coming back later this year – we suggested they needed more time!)
- **Our special thanks** once again to our Sunday Roster members who have 'signed on' for another year: Cameron Archer, Val and Bill Anderson, Pauline Clements, Virginia Daniels, Mary and Maurice Dunlop, Jennifer Dunn, Michelle Ellicott, Mabs and Bill Keppie, Kathy Lyall, Val Patfield, Shirley Threlfo.
- **Pauline Clements** and Jack Sullivan have combined their talents once again (the very successful Vacy book previously written by Pauline), this time it is St Paul's Anglican Church also to be written by Pauline.
- **The Royal Australian** Historical Society presented the prestigious "Certificate of Achievement" Award to Shirley Threlfo at the Annual State Conference held in Sydney in October last year. This award is for services to local history and very deserving for Shirley, foundation member, treasurer, author and life member of our society.
- **We acknowledge** and greatly appreciate the wonderful support from Paterson townspeople – Peter Swain (Paterson Post Office), Rodney and Evelyn (Paterson Country Cafe) Dot (Paterson Friendly Food Store) and The Paterson "PSST", (the town's ever increasing local newspaper) editor Alison Pitkin.
- **Winner of the painting** of "Cawarra" Gresford by society member Val Anderson was Mrs L Brennan of Martins Creek Road. ("I knew I would win" Mrs Brennan told Secretary Pauline on delivery – "I have been saving the space on my wall since I bought the ticket")



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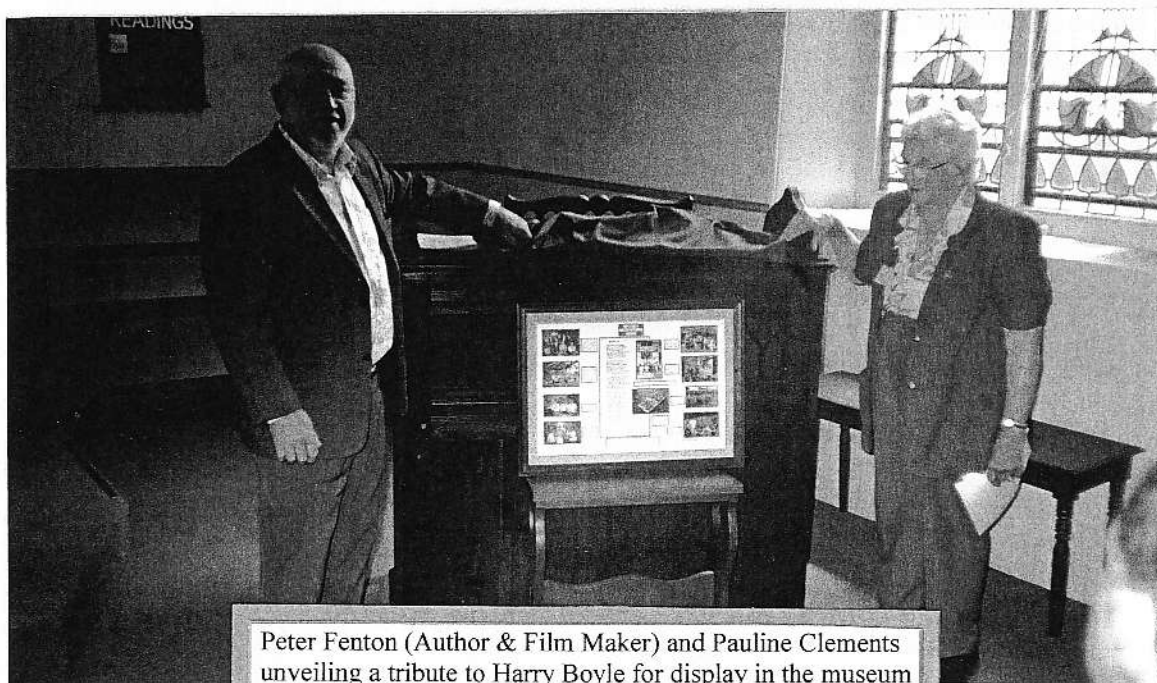
What a wonderful day we had at our book launch/tribute to dear friend, the late **Harry Boyle OAM** – sixty eight visitors – historic venues (St Ann’s Presbyterian Church and Court House Museum) – wonderful coverage by the Maitland Mercury (before and after) – country cooking for lunch – yes, it was hot (but crikey, it’s summer!).

The booklet is selling beyond our expectations and Harry, we know you would have loved being there!

WELL DONE EVERYONE!

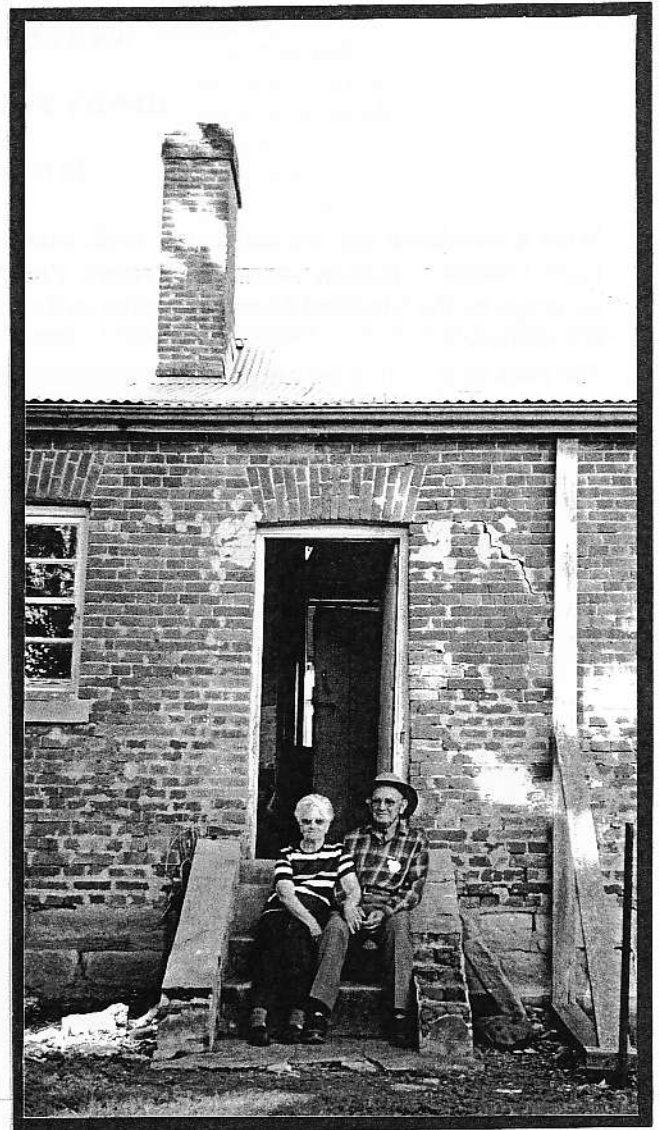
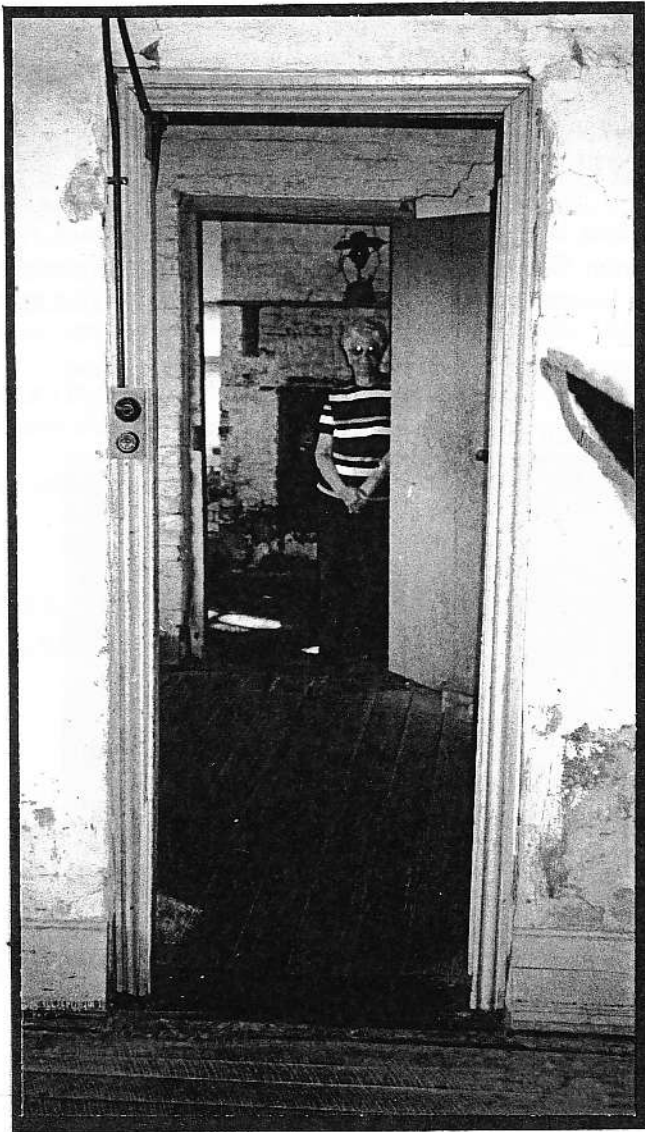


“Soldier – Farmer – Historian” ORGANISING COMMITTEE
back: Robin Stevenson, Kathy Lyall, Shirley Threlfo, Val Patfield
front: Virginia Daniels, Pauline Clements, Mabs Keppie, Bill Keppie
Photo: Val Anderson



Peter Fenton (Author & Film Maker) and Pauline Clements
unveiling a tribute to Harry Boyle for display in the museum
Photo: Bill Anderson

FROM OUR RECENT PAST – When we were more “outreach” active. We are still just as active but now centred at the museum.



In bygone times we regularly displayed at Tocal Field days and Tocal Homestead Open Days. For many years we transformed the upper rooms of Webbers Cottage with displays and memorabilia from the museum. Stalwarts of those days were Mary and Maurice Dunlop. These photos were taken a decade ago by Bill Anderson.



LOCAL MEMORIES

Bruce Dodds and Walter Hancock, both “Paterson Boys” have donated memorabilia of their childhood days in Paterson to the museum as well as written memories of those days.

We are first cousins, both in our seventies and are products of the relaxed environment of beautiful Paterson where we spent the first 20 years of our lives in happy but humble homes. Our education was derived at Paterson Public and Maitland Boys High. From there we went to Theological College (Walter) and the other to teachers College (Bruce)

THE COTTAGE.—*Our Grandparents’ home was constructed by King (from Largs, I think) in William Street, Paterson for the princely sum of £99/19/11½: (just about \$200. Of course it was weatherboard with iron roof and only comprised of 4 rooms (Kitchen/dining: Sitting room: 2 Bedrooms and a front verandah only. NO BATH OR LAUNDRY but outside toilet (10 metre dash). Of course there was no electricity and the interior dividing walls were just single boardsno cavity. YET IT STILL STANDS !! Only minor additions have been made; like bath, laundry, back verandah, sheds etc and electricity. So built in 1901 the home sheltered us all at some time and we thought it was just great!*

ITEMS DONATED — OLD BOOKS (some prizes won) and school magazines (1875-1930); CYCLOPS TRIKE — FLIVER (aged 70/80 years); EDISON GRAMOPHONE (in Hancock family for 100 plus years.

FROM JACK SULLIVAN'S FILES

THE BOER WAR AND THE MACKELLAR FAMILY – PATERSON VALLEY CONNECTION

From: "The War with Johnny Boer - Australians in the Boer War – 1899-1902" Edited by Max Chamberlain & Robin Droogleever. Australian Military Historical Publications – Loftus – 2003.

ACCIDENT No. 1 – Our guns eventually caused theirs to clear out and we then advanced again with the guns and while going at top speed my horse got in a meerkat's hole and being too weak to recover himself turned a complete somersault and just came down on my right knee, and W. Bonner jumped off thinking I was a goner but I got up and mounted and went on again. [912. Trooper William Bonner, 1st Australian Horse] We then advanced and got within range of their big guns and had a lively 5 minutes till we got out of range. We then had our first taste of drawing fire or as more popularly termed 'stirring up the muck'. When it is uncertain whether a kopje is occupied by a few men without guns or a thousand men with guns some squadron from the Brigade is sent ahead to draw the fire and find out. In this instance when the artillery duel was going on No. 1 Troop was told to advance and out we went on a plain with kopjes on each side about 3 miles apart and we could see their artillery on the left kopje.

We advanced near to an apparently unoccupied kopje and got within 1,000 yards on the left of same in open order. Suddenly there was a rush of Boers down the kopje and at the same time the artillery started at us. We went fours about and not being allowed to gallop had to canter slowly – at least myself and the men near [Lieutenant K. K.] **McKellar** went slow but on the flanks they were racing hard. The air seemed thick with bullets, just like bees, and it was marvellous that only one man was hit, and that man was Possum Taylor, one of the 1st contingent. [811. Trooper Owen Albert Taylor, w.i.a. Driefontein 10th March 1900] I was riding just ahead of him and he stopped one right through the shoulder and yelled out, on my inquiry if he could stick on, that he was all right. **Mr. McK[ellar]** made me lead the troop back and assisted Taylor back to the Brigade where he got patched up. The Boers got some of their guns away under the white flag. We heard afterwards that Kruger and Steyn were watching the battle and had a religious service but cleared out when we got near and in fact ought to have been captured by the Household Cavalry. The battle was called Springfontein or Abraham's Kraal. Don't know our casualties but the Essex Regiment lost heavily losing 85 men out of one company. Our Brigade was under General French, the infantry under Lord Roberts.

We got to a farm house on our way back and immediately started to loot. I got some pumpkins and salt. Had some roast and boiled pumpkin and did not know before what a grand vegetable it is. Got to camp about 9 after being gone for 15 hours. Horses and men thoroughly done up. Lots of horses died during the day and they are left with everything on them; the riders thereof have to walk.

A brief undated eye-witness account of an 'exploding Worcester' at Driefontein comes from 102. Private Alfred Bothamly, a member of the 2nd Contingent, Queensland Mounted Infantry. Bothamly later suffered from cyanide-poisoning and was invalided to Australia where, according to Murray, he arrived on the 8th August 1900.

Keith Kinnaird McKellar (sic) was the brother of Dorothea Mackellar, famous for her poem "My Country". Keith Mackellar would very frequently visit "Torryburn" at Gresford an estate owned by the Mackellar family for nearly four years and where Dorothea, on her own admission, had her inspiration for the poem.

Keith died in July 1900 during the closing stages of the Boer War and some time later his remains were shipped to Sydney and reburied at Waverly Cemetery in November 1905. Prior to her death in 1968 Dorothea requested her ashes be added to Keith's grave and that of their parents, Sir Charles Kinnaird Mackellar and his wife Marion Buckland.



FROM JACK SULLIVAN'S FILES

POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICE—We are pleased indeed to notice that at length tenders are being called for the edifice. The plans and specification may be seen at the office of our C.P.S., and intending contractors would do well to proceed to business as early as possible, as all tenders must be in on the 31st inst. As yet, we have only had a casual glance at the plans, but from what we have seen, the structure is to be a commodious one, built of brick, two stories high, and from the outside presents quite an ornate appearance. From the internal arrangements and appointments, we observe with pleasure that the comfort and convenience of the postmaster has not been forgotten. The site of the proposed edifice is at the corner of Duke and King streets, opposite the present P.O., and we need hardly say a more convenient site could not be found.

Maitland Mercury, 1883.

“The new building was reported occupied on 4th May 1885, and the file does not state if any ceremony was conducted to mark this event”

Ref: Paterson Postal File – Australian Archives, Sydney.



Maitland Mercury 1882

TENDERS

TENDERS are invited for the ERECTION OF NEW PATERSON SCHOOL OF ARTS. Tenders to be addressed to the undersigned, and to be sent in not later than the 31st Jan., 1883.

Plans and Specification to be seen at the Post Office, Paterson.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

J TUCKER,
Hon. Sec. Building Committee.



Maitland Mercury 1928

**MARTINS CREEK
HOUSE WARMING**

The improvements to Martins Creek “back road” were much appreciated by all who passed over it on the evening of June 1, the unusual activity being a “house-warming” tendered to Mr. and Mrs. J. Martin in their new home.

Friends gathered from all parts of the district and made themselves very much at home, passing the time in dancing, cards and other games. A tasty supper provided by the ladies was served, and all dispersed shortly after midnight, wishing Mr. and Mrs. Martin and family the best of luck and prosperity in their removal from the old home by the mountain to the new one by the river.

The residence is roomy and convenient, with verandah on three sides, and commands a beautiful outlook across the Paterson River towards the town and quite close to the old Tillimbi homestead. A home such as this in which to spend the evening of their lives, is the reward of steady, constant endeavour, and is outstanding evidence of their faith in the possibilities of the district



Maitland Mercury 1882

TO LET, from the 12th January next, that **EXTENSIVE PROPERTY** known as GLEN-ALBYN, on the **PATERSON RIVER**, within a short distance from Vacy, containing 2560 acres or thereabouts permanently watered, and extending from the Paterson River to Lamb’s Valley Creek.

For Further particulars, terms, and conditions of lease, &c.

Apply to
G.T. CHAMBERS,
East Maitland



Maitland Mercury 1921

PATERSON

Still another incident of historical import occurred at Paterson on Friday afternoon last, when the Avro aeroplane, belonging to the Commercial Aviation Company, and piloted by Captain H. R. Hawkins, arrived in this town. This is the first time an aeroplane has visited Paterson, therefore it is readily understood how interested the majority of the citizens were. Long before the hour of its arrival many eyes were scanning the southern horizon, in which direction it was due, and no little excitement was noticeable when it first came into sight. Having made a safe landing it was quickly viewed by a large number of spectators. The pilot we learn has a distinguished war record. He joined the Royal Flying Corps in January, 1915, and had a full period of war service, during a portion of which he was attached to the flying corps of our gallant French Allies. Captain Hawkins won the Military Cross, the French Legion of Honour, and the Croix de Guerre. He is credited with having brought down 17 Hun aeroplanes. The machine he is at present flying is an Avro K4, fitted with a 110 h.p. Le’Rhone engine. Many of the Paterson residents on Saturday last took advantage of the presence of the ‘plane to obtain flights around the district.