



PATERSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY Inc.
COURT HOUSE MUSEUM

PO Box 34
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Affiliated with Royal Australian Historical Society
Museums Australia - Hunter Chapter



Jack Sullivan OAM – recognition for an outstanding contribution

Decades of local history research by leading Hunter Historian Jack Sullivan was recognised in the recent Australia Day Awards. Jack was awarded an OAM in the Order of Australia

'I was delighted to learn of an award in the Order of Australia to Jack Sullivan in the Australia Day Awards. He is now Jack Sullivan OAM.' Dr Cameron Archer President of Paterson Historical Society said.

This fine recognition for the outstanding research and writing that Jack has done over many years especially in the service of the Paterson Historical Society.

His publications on the families and the Paterson Valley estates are unequalled anywhere in Australia. We are fortunate to have his publications available to us over many years. Jack has also supported and encouraged many in their research into local history.

I have known and worked with Jack for over 35 years and have been aware of his contribution to local history in the Hunter Valley over that period. It is over and beyond what most local historians contribute.

His work has included:

- Liaising with and assisting many other historians and others in the region with their research.
- Collection and printing of historical photographs which may have otherwise been lost. Jack is an accomplished photographer and has used his skills for the purposes of local history.
- Being an active and generous researcher in a number of historical societies including Gresford, Raymond Terrace and Paterson.
- Provision of all of his research materials to Tocal Homestead and College for the research of the history of that location.
- Co-authoring books with others including the late Dr John Turner of the University of Newcastle, a book called *From Nobbys to Paterson* (now out of print).
- Jack does not earn income from his writings and books – all income goes to the Historical Society. In the past 20 years Paterson Historical Society has been the beneficiary of this generosity. Details of the Society's publications can be found on its website <http://www.patersonhistory.org.au/books.htm>
- Books published cover many of the large estates and early European families in the upper Paterson and Allyn Valleys including Trevallyn, Cawarra, Camyr Allyn and Orindinna.

'The depth of the research in these books is immense and each one has often taken years to complete. He has been meticulous in his research and writing with all of his books having a very thorough table of contents and index. He also acknowledges all his sources and his overall approach is most scholarly. He is a self-taught local historian and a very good one at that'. Dr Archer said,

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Caption:

Dr Cameron Archer AM, President, Paterson Historical Society, congratulating Mr Jack Sullivan OAM, member and leading local historian on his award of an Award in the Order of Australia.
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