



Media Release and Invitation

Two new books to be launched

Paterson Historical Society is adding two more books to its already extensive repertoire of publications.

Shirley Threlfo, Society Life Member, long-time researcher and writer has written about *Brisbane Grove*, an early estate directly over the river from the village. It has had various owners and much is now subdivided into small blocks but in past times it was a productive property. Shirley and her husband farmed part of it for many years so Shirley is well placed to record its history.

The book covers both the operation of the estate through time as well as the families associated with it and the village of Paterson. These include the Williams, Tuckers and Cann families.

Dr Cameron Archer AM, President of Paterson Historical Society said "This book is a great addition to the Society's record of the village and district. Until now we have had scant information on *Brisbane Grove*. Shirley's writing means that there is a well researched publication which will be sought after for many years to come."

The other book to be launched is a formerly unpublished manuscript only known to local history buffs and those who trawl library catalogues and reference lists. Dr Brian Walsh, Society member was given a copy of the manuscript by Society member Wayne Patfield who has extensively studied shipping and shipbuilding in the lower Hunter. Brian undertook extra research and tapped into Wayne's knowledge to assist with its publication.

Farming and Shipbuilding on the Paterson and Williams Rivers in the 1800s by William King is an autobiography of King and his father Edward. Edward King came to the Hunter in 1838 eventually settling on the *Wallalong Estate* just down the river from Woodville. King was no shrinking violet but a successful and innovative farmer. Fed up with high freight costs to Sydney he purchased his own ship. Later he built the *Australian Sovereign* on King's farm on the bank of the Paterson River. At that time it was the largest ship ever built in the Colony.

"William King provides readers with a special insight into nineteenth century life both on the farm and as a sea farer," Dr Archer said.

The Society is delighted to have these books launched right on the bank of the Paterson River at Albion Farm. We are most grateful to have the opportunity in a location associated with both publications – Brisbane Grove, an estate further up the river and Wallalong just down the river.

Launch details:

3pm Sunday 3 March 2019

Albion Way, 837 Paterson Rd, Woodville

RSVP by Sunday 24 February by way of any of the below:

- <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/launch-of-two-paterson-historical-society-books-brisbane-grove-and-farming-and-shipbuilding-on-the-tickets-55439491010>
- patersonmuseum@gmail.com
- 0427 202 948

The books will be available at Paterson Court House Museum and McDonalds Bookstore in Maitland or order online: www.patersonhistory.org.au/books.htm

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