



Release of *Steamships on the Paterson River 1832 to 1950*

by

Wayne Patfield

Paterson Historical Society likes to gather in a hall or elsewhere to launch books but COVID-19 has compelled us to adapt our approach. To release and celebrate the success of Wayne Patfield's new book "*Steamships on the Paterson River 1832-1950*", we will setup shop in Tucker Park, Paterson, so people can drift in anytime over three hours to talk to Wayne and buy his book while maintaining social distancing.

No speeches, no launch, no one time to be there – just Wayne and his incredible new book based on decades of painstaking research and a love of ships that's in his DNA from the time his forebears such as Captain Herb Patfield, a highly respected river boat master, navigated steamships along the Paterson River.

The river trade endured for more than 100 years and the steam ships that Wayne has recorded in his book were the life blood of the Valley, part of the pulse of daily life as they puffed and splashed their way along the river.

So, who could be better than Wayne to research and write about the Paterson River boats?

Last year Wayne wrote his first book about those vessels which were powered by wind and sail. Then he turned his attention to the steam powered vessels. After much research and a little agony, the book is ready for release.

We are having what is sometimes called a "soft launch". We cannot hold an event due to social distancing rules and we certainly do not wish to be responsible for spreading the virus. Can you image the headlines about a Paterson Historical Society book launch cluster?

We like our history—but not to that extent.

We are therefore setting up a small desk and stall in Tucker Park under the poplar trees for an afternoon when anyone can call by and see Wayne and purchase the book.

This will be from **1-4pm on Sunday 18th October 2020**

The books are an important source of revenue for the Society and it is essential to make them available before Christmas. Wayne's book *Steamships on the Paterson River* will retail for \$20.00. It is a treasure trove of information that you will never find on Google. You will only find it in this great book by Wayne.

A book by Alison Pitkin, *Portraits of Paterson*, will be released in the same manner on Sunday 15 November. We will have more details about Alison's book next month.

We look forward to you calling by on Sunday 18 October.

Cameron Archer AM
President

Paterson Historical Society

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