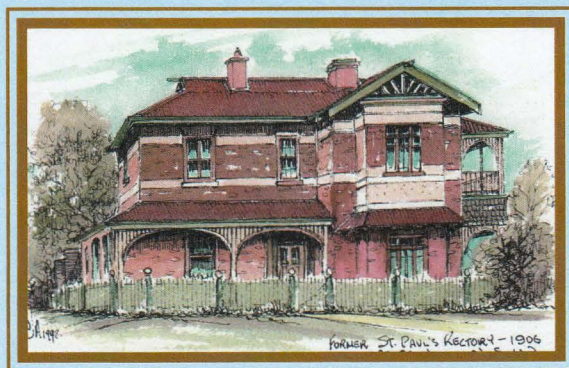
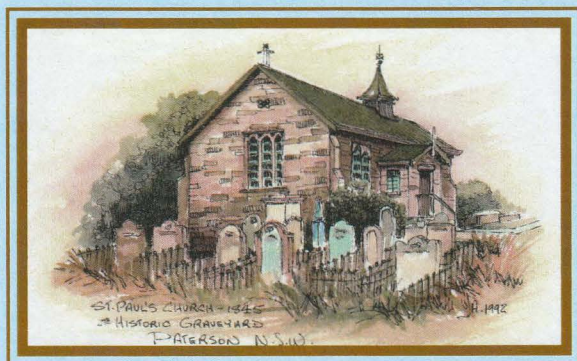
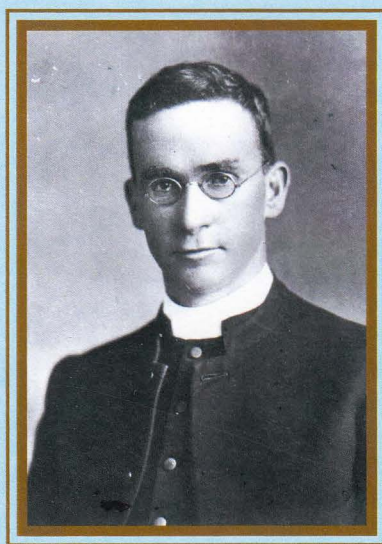


Herman Montague Rucker Rupp

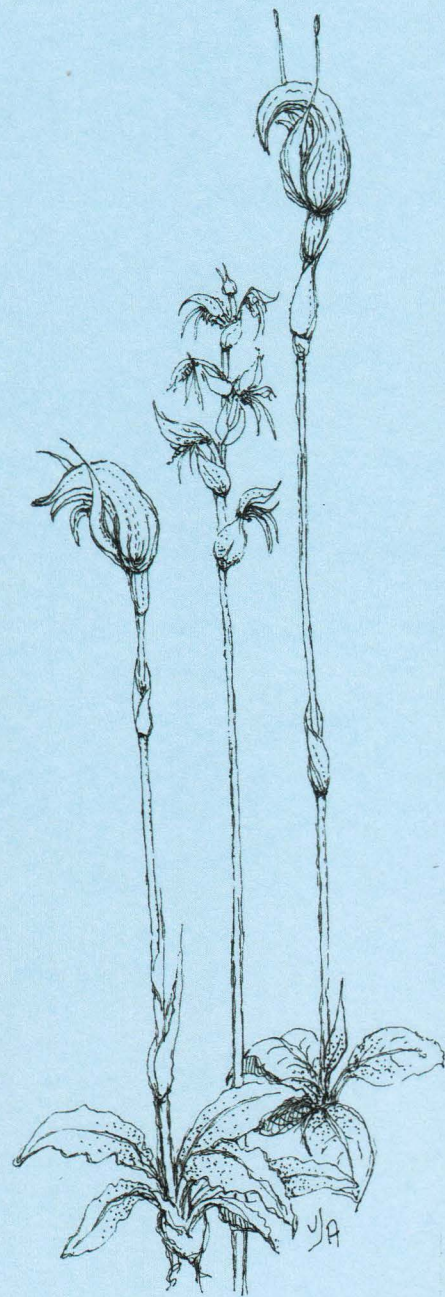
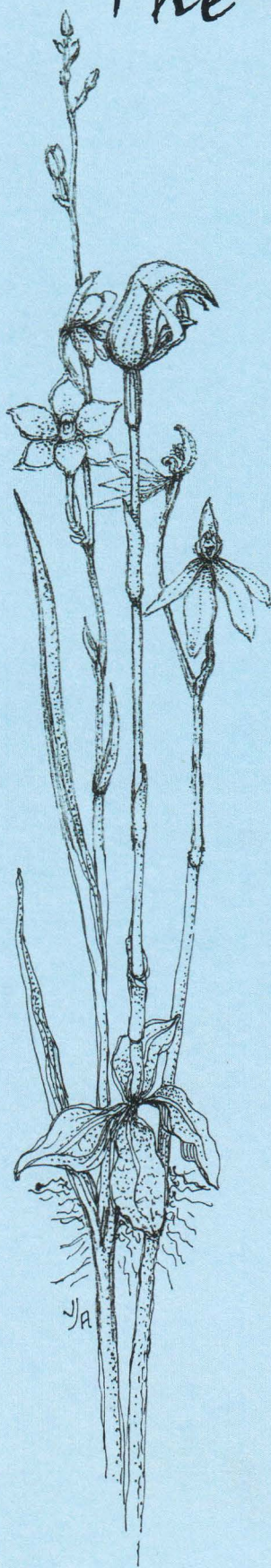
Rector of St Paul's
Anglican Church, Paterson
1924 -1930

'The Orchid Man of Paterson'



Val Anderson

Published by
Paterson Historical Society February 2010
Paterson Historical Society

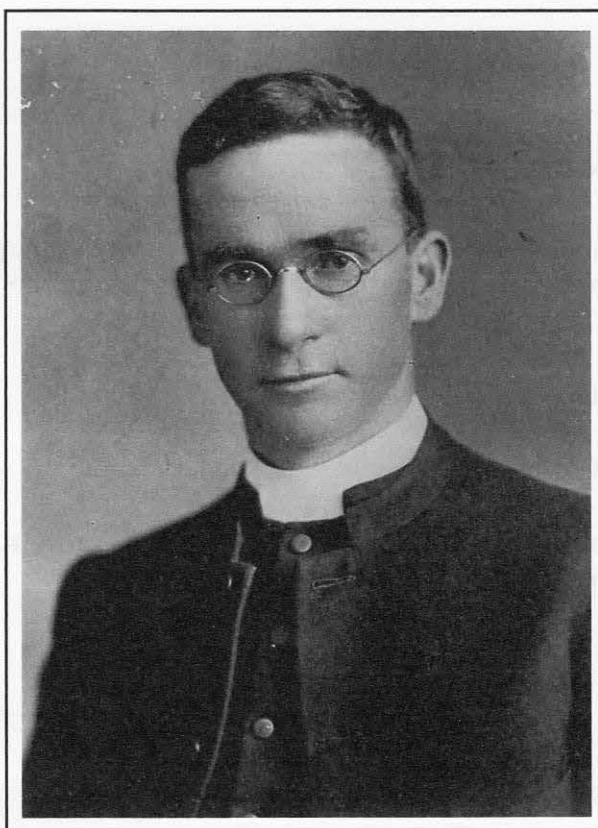


Herman Montague Rucker Rupp

Rector of St Paul's Anglican Church, Paterson

1924-1930

'The Orchid Man of Paterson'



The Rev Herman Montague Rucker Rupp, BA
Photo: Courtesy Sandra Bembrick - Monkerai

VAL ANDERSON

Published by

Paterson Historical Society Incorporated

2010

Based on the Paterson Historical Society 2003 Heritage Lecture

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Val Anderson
Paterson Historical Society

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Cover - Val Anderson

NAMES OF ORCHIDS

L to R - Thelymitra pauciflora
Pterostylis curta
Caladenia alba
Pterostylis acuminata
Acianthus fornicatus
Pterostylis concinna

Dedicated to
Mabs and Bill Keppie
“Glenlossie”
Paterson – NSW

and to
Salomon
whose understanding of nature
is enchanting



Corybas aconitiflorus
Sketch – Val Anderson

Paterson Historical Society Inc
Paterson – NSW – 2421

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INTRODUCTION

THE NEW APPOINTMENT – PATERSON 1924

“It’s a little bit of England,” said a visitor to Monty Rupp as they stood on the river bank.

Rev H M R Rupp had just arrived in Paterson and was aware of some of the town’s appeal – the quiet charm and beauty of the river’s willows and the famous Paterson River orange, however other aspects of Paterson would arise to consume and demand more time than he could have foreseen prior to his appointment. At 52 years of age he arrived to find a parish struggling financially, congregation numbers low and a church building in poor condition. Rupp’s dedication and his understanding of rural values during his tenure resulted in refurbishment to St Paul’s church, markedly improved congregational attendances and a new church built at Martins Creek!

In addition to his family and his beloved church, Rupp’s other passion was botany, in particular, the unique Australian native orchid.

Rupp was a fluent and voluminous letter-writer. In his writings he speaks extensively of the dense brush in the hills at Dun’s Creek where orchids were plentiful, “Moonabung Gorge” (sic),¹ a wild ravine some distance to the west and the scrub in and around Martins Creek.

My interest in Rupp was renewed when I became honorary curator at the Paterson Court House Museum in 1984.² When compiling material for a display on St Paul’s Anglican church I came across a very familiar name – Rupp, the orchid clergyman! Bill, my late husband and I were keen orchid fanciers and took much pride in a plant we had of *Dendrobium ruppianum*³ which had been passed on to us by a grower at Bulahdelah.

My further research into Rupp led me to Dr Lionel Gilbert of Armidale who had just completed a wonderful record of this remarkable man’s life in his book, *The Orchid Man – The Life, Work and Memoirs of the Rev HMR Rupp 1872 –1956*. How fortunate Lionel Gilbert was to have had the great pleasure of meeting and corresponding with Rupp for many years. As with my other consuming Paterson interest, Dorothea Mackellar’s “My Country”, it has not been possible for me to have had personal contact and therefore became so reliant on other’s references, records and opinions.

I am greatly indebted to Lionel who generously handed on to me his primary Paterson research material used in his publication – Rupp’s letters, photos, artwork with consent to use extracts or references from his tribute to Rupp if I wished. As with works such as this, many people have given co-operation. To my dear friends, the late Harry Boyle OAM and Jack Sullivan, Cameron Archer, Sandra Bembrick,⁴ Dr Bill Hunter, Betsy Perrottet, The Anglican Diocese of Newcastle, Mabs and Bill Keppie, Dulcie Hartley, the late Robin Stevenson, The University of Newcastle Cultural Collections, my late husband Bill, and my colleagues at Paterson Historical Society, in particular, Shirley Threlfo for her many years of support - I extend my appreciation.

Val Anderson - 2009

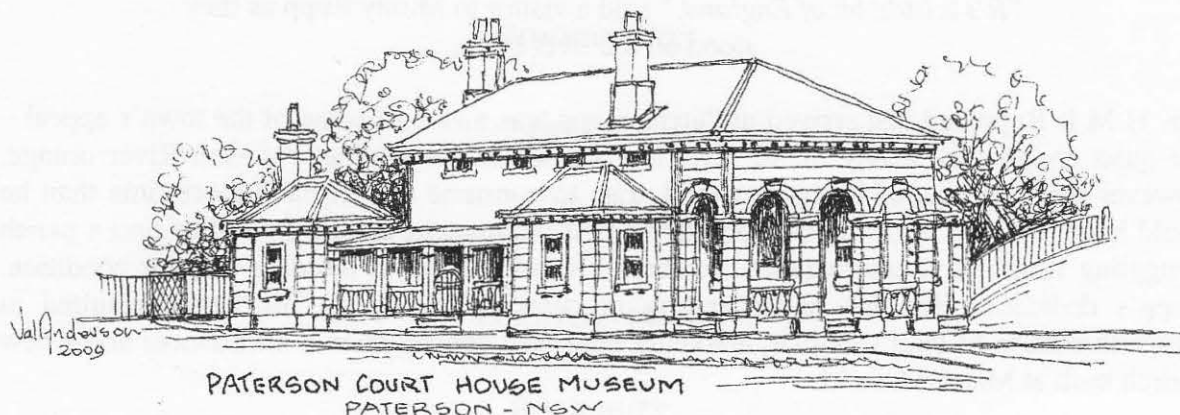
¹ H M R Rupp’s personal papers

² See Page 12

³ *Dendrobium ruppianum* now *Dendrobium jonesii*

⁴ Rupp’s granddaughter

PREFACE



I am very pleased to prepare a preface for this important book covering the social and natural history of the Paterson Valley. It is the second edition of what has been an interesting publication championed by Val and supported strongly by the Society. Having lived in the former Rectory and worked in the study in which Rev. Rupp would have undertaken all his work I feel a sense of attachment to his life and times at Paterson.

We are indeed privileged to have had a man of Rev. Rupp's calibre in Paterson as he has left a lasting legacy both for the Church and the natural history of the Paterson Valley. We are also very fortunate to have Val Anderson who has enthusiastically researched Rev. Rupp and his work in the Paterson Valley. The book is a tribute to Val's hard work and persistence ably supported by her late husband Bill.

Val has drawn together a diverse source of information all relevant to the life and times of Rev. Rupp at Paterson. Her use of original documents including hand written letters by Rev. Rupp provide a personal touch to the publication. Val has also drawn into the story other important students of the natural history of the Paterson Valley such as John Hopson and John Tucker, both of these men left a lasting impact on the Valley.

The book contains a revision of the existing information but also new information about orchids, and the Valley and the work of Rev. Rupp. As each year goes by we collect more information about Paterson and it adds to the rich tapestry of its European and natural history.

My congratulations to Val on a fine publication and I commend it to you for your reading.

Dr A C Archer
President
Paterson Historical Society

Principal, Tocal College
Director, Tocal Agricultural Centre
"Tocal", Paterson NSW 2421

FOREWORD

The name H M R Rupp is synonymous with 20th century botany. He was one of the old school of naturalists, inquisitive and dedicated. As an Anglican Rector, he was revered by his parishioners. As a gentleman, he was loved by the general public, and as a botanist, he was highly respected by the scientific world. His passion for botany, and in particular native orchids, is shown in his writings, and his large collection of herbarium specimens. He described many new species and varieties, and extended the known distribution of these and other plant species.

His scientific writings and illustrations show his great love for native orchids, and his experimental journey into nature photography is a very interesting adjunct to his story.

He was a man of meagre means, and his stay in Paterson coincided with the start and development of the Great Depression. His herbarium specimens, which are now housed at the National Herbarium of NSW, are an inspiration to all botanists, both amateur and professional. Because of the shortage of suitable paper brought on by the Depression, many of the specimens are mounted on scraps of newspaper, but all have been treated with the love and respect of a true gentleman.

In some ways, Rupp saw the Australian landscape at its best. His writings tell of walking to the top of a ridge in the alpine areas of the Barrington Tops, and looking out over a vast sea of orchids and other wildflowers. He'd be horrified to see the same views today, as they are often of vast seas of introduced weed species such as Scotch Broom.

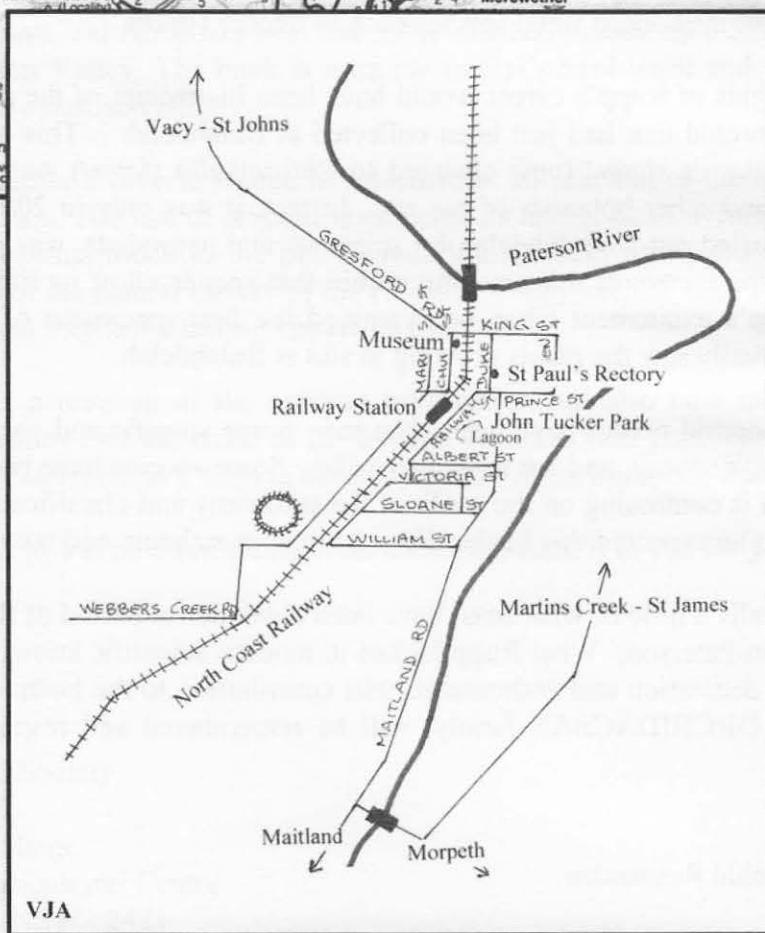
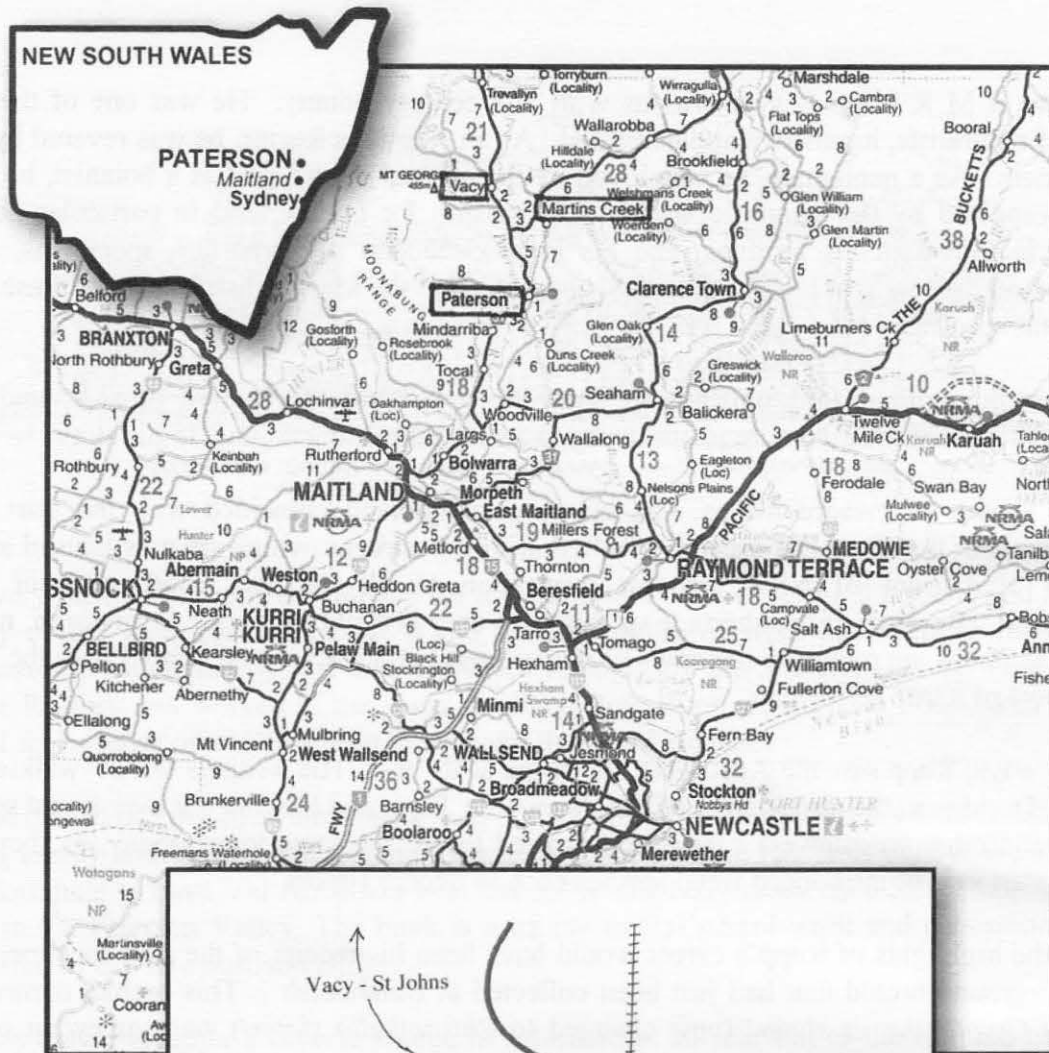
One of the highlights of Rupp's career would have been his receipt of the first specimens of the underground orchid that had just been collected at Bulahdelah. This orchid, named by Rupp as *Cryptanthemis slateri* (now changed to *Rhizanthella slateri*) was somewhat of an enigma to Rupp and other botanists of his era. In fact, it was only in 2008 and 2009, that research being carried out at Bulahdelah by scientists and naturalists, was at last starting to unravel some of the secrets of this amazing orchid that spends all of its life underground. I can imagine Rupp's excitement when he examined the first specimens of this orchid, and again when he actually saw the plants growing in situ at Bulahdelah.

Many of Rupp's orchid names have been changed. Some specific and varietal names have been reduced to synonymy, and are no longer valid. Some species have been placed in new genera. Research is continuing on the study of the taxonomy and classification of Australian orchids, and it can be expected that further changes in nomenclature and taxonomy will result.

This publication tells a little of what must have been a wonderful period of Rupp's life during his six year stay in Paterson. What Rupp lacked in modern scientific knowledge he made up for with passion, dedication and enthusiasm. His contribution to the botanical world, and in particular to the ORCHIDACEAE family, will be remembered and respected far into the future.

Bill Dowling
Naturalist and Orchid Researcher
2009

LOCATION MAPS



DISTRICT MAP

Val Anderson

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Paterson Historical Society

REV HERMAN MONTAGUE RUCKER RUPP

1872 – 1956



The Rector of Paterson
in the Rectory garden 1927
Courtesy - Sandra Bembrick - Monkerai

Herman Montague Rucker Rupp, clergyman and botanist was born at Port Fairy, Victoria in 1872 second child of Rev Charles Ludwig Herman Rupp, Prussian-born Anglican clergyman and his Tasmanian wife, Marie.

Rupp's primary education was at Geelong Church of England Grammar School and later at Trinity College, University of Melbourne (BA 1897). Rupp was made deacon in 1899 and ordained priest in 1901. Following country appointments (where he married Florence Mabel Dowe at Tamworth in 1904) he then travelled widely in Tasmania and New South Wales.

Appointments - Bulahdelah 1923-24, Paterson 1924-30, Weston 1930-32, Pilliga 1932, East Maitland 1933, Woy Woy 1933-36 and Raymond Terrace 1936-39.

On retirement Rupp lived in Sydney still retaining his strong interest in cultivating and writing about native orchids and working as honorary curator at the National Herbarium of New South Wales.

Rupp died 2 September 1956 survived by two daughters and one son.

Extracted – Australian Dictionary of Biography
Vol 11 – MUP – 1988
Dr Lionel Gilbert

ANGLICAN PARISH OF PATERSON

(Parish founded 1839)

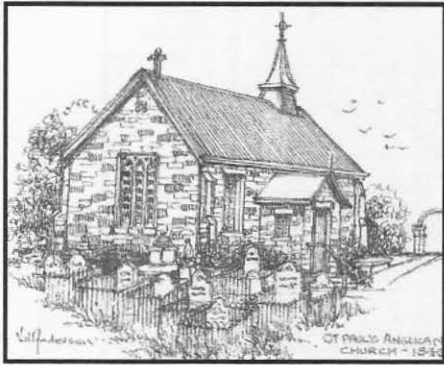
— 1929 —

RECTOR

THE REVEREND H M R RUPP BA

HONORARY LAY READER

MR V T OSBORNE

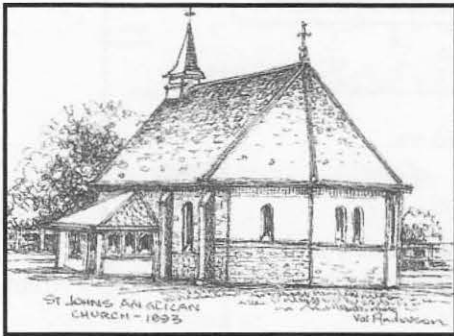


ST PAUL'S CHURCH, PATERSON

Opened and consecrated 1845 by Dr William Grant Broughton, Bishop of Australia.

WARDENS:

Messrs G O Marquet, A Lowe and A Cram

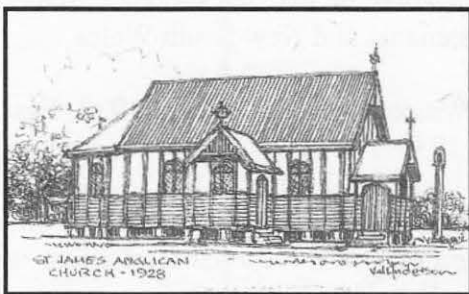


ST JOHN'S CHURCH, VACY

Dedicated 1893 by Bishop Stanton and consecrated by him in 1903.

WARDENS:

Messrs G C Sellens, V T Osborne and W J Brooker



ST JAMES CHURCH, MARTINS CREEK

Dedicated 1928 by Bishop Long

WARDENS:

Messrs P Keppie, E J Priestley and T Ellis

Reference: Souvenir Eightyfourth Anniversary
St Paul's Church - Paterson
27 November 1929
Dedications of Memorials to J J Smith MA
Courtesy - Joan Priestley - East Maitland
Sketches - Val Anderson

**ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
PATERSON
1845
HIS CHURCH**

I went twenty-three miles to Paterson, and there, on the twenty-seventh of November, consecrated the church of St. Paul, with the adjoining burial-ground.

Extract Bishop William Grant Broughton's Diary
Bishop of Australia
November 1845



**ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
PATERSON - NSW**

Sketch – Val Anderson
Rupp Display - Paterson Court House Museum

ST PAUL'S EIGHTYFOURTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

27 NOVEMBER 1929

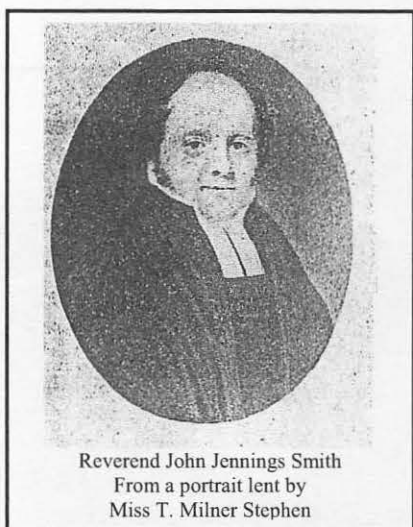
DEDICATION OF MEMORIALS TO JOHN JENNINGS SMITH MA
FIRST RESIDENT CHAPLAIN IN THE PATERSON-ALLYN VALLEYS
1839-1846

Rupp was an energetic and compassionate priest fully understanding the problems of rural life and depression.

A chance finding of a fallen commemorative plaque to Jennings Smith in the church set him a challenge to obtain finances to restore this and other appointments at St Paul's.

Together with A P Elkin¹ Rupp produced a souvenir booklet for the Eightyfourth Anniversary of St Paul's. Extracts from this booklet convey a background to the project.

THE JENNINGS SMITH MEMORIALS, 1929 BY THE REV H M R RUPP



In 1924 I found a small white marble tablet hidden away in the vestry of S. Paul's Church, bearing the following inscription, '*In memory of the Reverend John Jennings Smith, M.A., of Catherine Hall, Cambridge, First Incumbent of S. Paul's Church, Paterson. Died September 8th 1846, aged 62.*' This tablet had been rescued from a large fall of plaster on the north wall of the Church, but was afterwards apparently forgotten. The Jennings Smith tomb in the Churchyard also shewed signs of forgetfulness on the part of whoever might be considered responsible for its upkeep. Beyond one or two ineffectual efforts to have the tablet restored, nothing was done until 1928. I had no records of Mr Jennings Smith's work, and knew nothing about him or his family, but in 1928 I learnt that the pioneer chaplain had built the Church largely at his own cost. Investigation

followed, which impelled me to a definite appeal for funds to provide for the renovation of the tomb, restoration of the old tablet, and other work in honour of the memory of a man whose character and accomplishments entitle him to a high place among the pioneer Church of England clergymen of Australia. The appeal was successful, thanks chiefly to the splendid response from members and friends of the Jennings Smith family in various parts of the Commonwealth. Meantime an addition was contributed to the memorials by the gift of a stained-glass window by Mr M. Selwyn Smith of Beaudesert, Queensland, and his family. This window is now erected near the pulpit. Its outstanding feature consists of the Jennings Smith coat-of-arms and motto—*Mens conscia recti*. The tomb has been thoroughly renovated, special attention being paid to the prevention of roots penetrating between the joints of the stonework.

¹ Adolphus Peter Elkin, at the time of writing his book – *The Diocese of Newcastle – A History of the Diocese of Newcastle NSW Australia* in 1955 was Professor of Anthropology – University of Sydney – Commissary to the Bishop of Newcastle.

A second white marble tablet has been placed below the one found in the vestry, both being mounted on a slab of beautiful S. Anne's marble, and placed on the restored north wall.

The story of Mr Jennings Smith's career is quite a remarkable one. Born in London in 1784, he was a schoolmaster in his earlier adult years, and when nearly forty years of age—a married man with a family he went up to S. Catherine's Hall, Cambridge, to study for his degree with a view to taking Holy Orders. He was ordained by the Bishop of Gloucester in 1827, and after working in several country parishes, including Hartbury of which he was Curate-in-charge from 1829 to 1831, he went to London where he became one of the preceptors of the future Queen Victoria. In 1839, he accepted a Colonial Chaplaincy, and at the mature age of fifty-six migrated to Australia with his wife and ten children.

On arrival in Sydney, Mr Smith was offered by Dr Broughton, Bishop of Australia, the Archdeaconry of Hobart Town with the Headmastership of the projected Hutchins School, but his heart was set on pioneering, and so he accepted the alternative offered him by the Bishop, namely the difficult task of ministering to the settlers in the Paterson and Allyn Valleys. He arrived at Paterson at 10 p.m. on 2nd October, 1839, after walking fourteen miles through the cedar brushes and scrubs from Morpeth. He threw himself into his work with extraordinary zeal for a man of his years. There was not a Church building of any sort within the whole area from the foothills of the Barrington Tops to the Hunter River, but within a few years there were stone Churches at Paterson and Caergwrle (Allynbrook), a stone shed serving for a Church at Gresford.

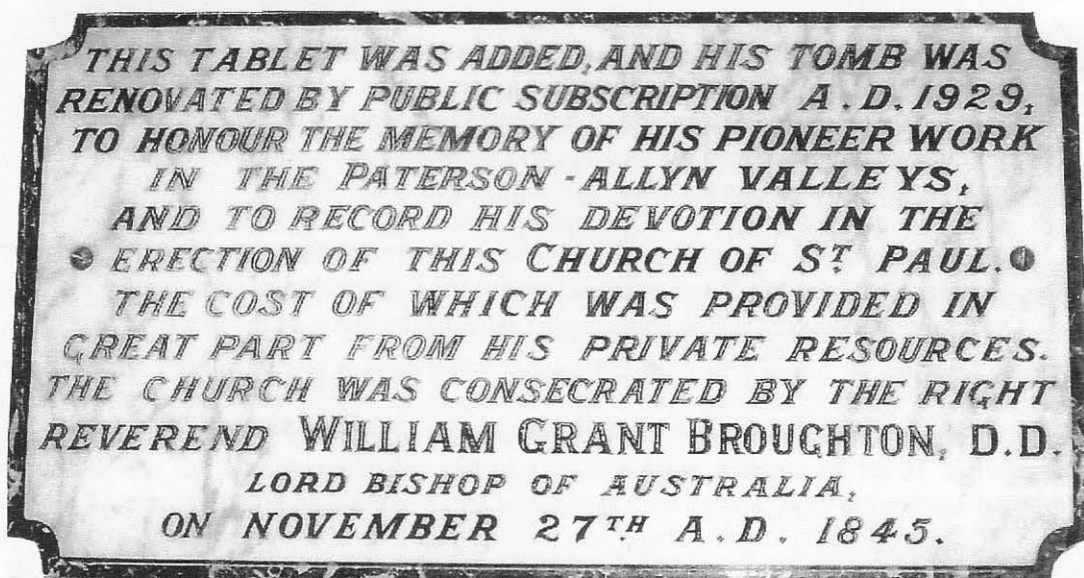
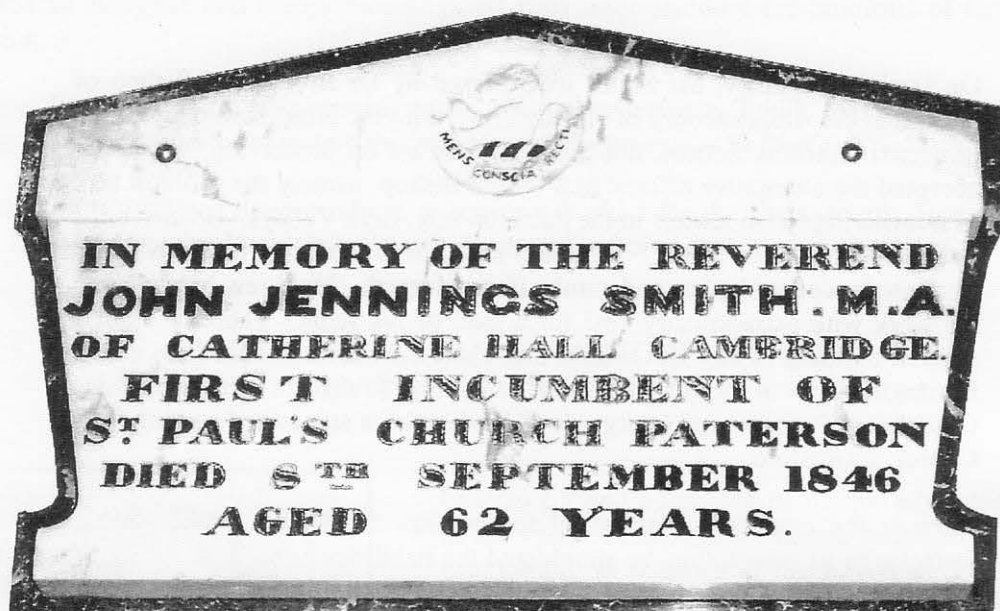
St Paul's Church is the outstanding memorial to Jennings Smith, for when there seemed to be insuperable obstacles to its completion, he shouldered the liabilities himself, and bore the greater part of the cost out of his own slender resources. Less than a year afterwards, as he was driving down to Hexham on the Hunter, where his son-in-law, Captain Horsley, had settled, he was thrown out of his gig, and taken in an unconscious condition to East Maitland where he died four days later on September 8th 1846. His loss was a very great one not only to his family and friends, but also to the Bishop and to the Church.

Jennings Smith was buried outside the East End of S. Paul's, and a substantial tomb was erected by parishioners. This tomb has now been thoroughly renovated as a tribute of honour to his memory. A fund raised by public subscriptions has provided for this and also for certain mural tablet-work in the Church, the restoration of a damaged wall, and the erection of a window presented by some Queensland members of the Jennings Smith family. The greater part of the fund has come from descendants of this fine pioneer Chaplain, but Paterson itself has not been unmindful of him, having recently raised over £600 to restore other parts of the fabric of the Church.

H M R Rupp
A P Elkin

Extracted from
St Paul's Church Paterson
Eightyfourth Anniversary Souvenir Booklet
Courtesy – Joan Priestley

MEMORIAL TABLETS
TO
REV JOHN JENNINGS SMITH MA
ST PAUL'S CHURCH
PATERSON
1846 - 1929

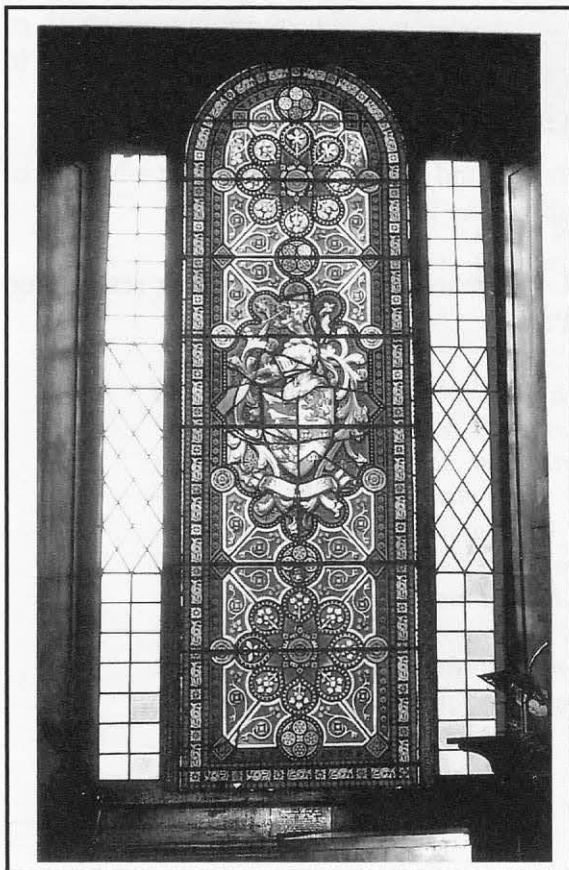


Photos - Val Anderson



Clergy and Parishioners
at the Grave of Rev J J Smith during the
Eightyfourth Anniversary Celebrations
of St Paul's Church

Photo – Paterson Historical Society Collection



The gift of a stained-glass window by
Mr M Selwyn Smith of Beaudesert,
Queensland and his family near the
pulpit of St Paul's.
Its outstanding feature consists of
the Jennings coat of arms and motto -
Mens conscia recti

Photo – Val Anderson

**THE SUCCESSFUL
EIGHTYFOURTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS
PIONEER CLERGYMAN
FIRST INCUMBANT OF PATERSON
REVIVING HONOURED MEMORY**

Under the above newspaper heading¹ Rupp set about engendering enthusiasm for this tribute to Rev John Jennings Smith MA, the first incumbent of the Paterson River district.

The appeal was given wonderful support from beyond local boundaries and in collaboration with Rev Dr A P Elkin arrangements quickly gathered momentum. A generous response made to the appeal by members and friends of the Jennings Smith family in several states and New Zealand and a small legacy from the late Mrs Alfred Cory (granddaughter of Jennings Smith)² enabled plans to be realised.

The celebration day, 27 November 1929 created much excitement in the Parish. Descendants of Jennings Smith from as far afield as Sydney, Melbourne and Toowoomba attended and with many other members of the clergy, congregation and church wardens Rupp and Mrs Rupp entertained at "Sunnyside"³ opposite the Rectory.

At 4.30 pm, prior to the celebratory proceedings at St Paul's, the Bishop of Newcastle, Bishop Long consecrated the Anglican section of the general cemetery. Great praise was given by the Bishop for the work carried out for the day.

At 5.45 pm a large group of visitors and congregation assembled at the School of Arts for a public tea provided by the three Women's Guilds of the Parish. Rupp presided at the tea and called upon the first guest speaker, Miss Thea Milner Stephen. Miss Stephen, an accomplished public speaker disclosed that her mother was not only the youngest child of Jennings Smith and his wife but the only child born to them in Australia and indeed in Paterson itself!⁴

Following other speakers, Rev Dr Elkin revealed that he and Rupp were preparing a history of the Paterson-Allyn Valleys which they hoped to publish the following year.

Towards the closing of the celebrations, Bishop Long announced the impending resignation of Rupp who had accepted nomination to another Parish.

A very pleasing feature in connection with the celebration was the splendid manner in which it was organised, and too much credit cannot be given the rector (Rev. H. M. R. Rupp), who, for months past, had been working hard to have all arrangements completed in time. He is pleased with the result, and very thankful to all those who, in any way, assisted him. It has been announced that he is leaving Paterson to take charge of Abermain parish some time in January, and he will leave behind him a creditable record in Paterson parish. Taking charge in 1924 the church finance was anything but bright, but with good organising a wonderful change was brought about. Although he knew that he might be leaving Paterson almost at any time, his

¹ *Dungog Chronicle* 2 July 1929.

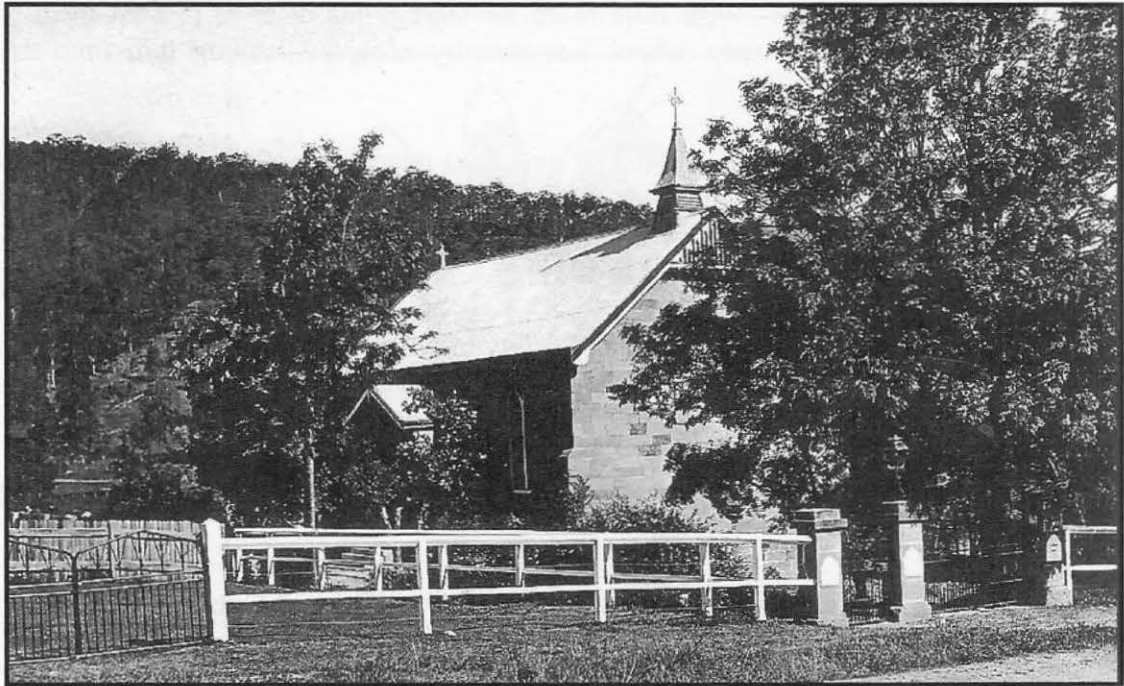
² *Maitland Mercury* 23 November 1929.

³ "Sunnyside" - built in the 1840s.

⁴ This would have been a birth registration at the first parsonage in 1841.

*interest in the parish was kept up, and the condition of the church buildings and cemetery is better now than for many years and the general church work is in readiness for the handing over to his successor.*⁵

*The monumental work in connection with the memorials was admirably executed by Messrs. Thos. Browne, Ltd. The completion of the partially-restored north wall was carried out by Messrs. B. Pryor and Son, and Mr. C. C. Collison. The window was erected by Mr. A. Partridge-Wall, whose skilful work in building up sidelights out of glass taken from the previous window was much admired. The brass work was excellently done by Church Stores, Sydney.*⁶



Rev H M R Rupp's photo of St Paul's Church
Photo – Courtesy Sandra Bembrick

⁵ *Maitland Mercury* 30 November 1929.

⁶ *Maitland Mercury* 30 November 1929.

PATERSON COURT HOUSE MUSEUM

HIS TRIBUTE

During his stay in Paterson Rupp is fondly remembered for his many wanderings in the district recording and describing native orchids and wild flowers. He had seriously begun recording his botanical observations in 1892, however this passion began when he was very young. At about five years of age, guards were placed around flowers in the family garden to prevent Rupp "investigating" them - before eleven he could talk flowers and botany with those interested in horticulture.

When Rupp had settled into the rectory in 1924 he realised his private herbarium had extended to over 5000 plant specimens. With little room for storage his offer to present them to the University of Melbourne's Botany school was warmly accepted leaving him time then to concentrate on native orchids.

During the next thirty years Rupp published over 200 papers, chiefly on orchids, including descriptions of four new genera and over seventy new species. He wrote two authoritative books, "A Guide to the Orchids of New South Wales" in 1930 and "The Orchids of New South Wales" in 1943 (revised with supplement in 1969).

Rupp belonged to the Naturalists and Linnian Society of NSW and the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria. He was awarded the W B Clark Medal by the Royal Society of NSW in 1949 and the Australian Natural History Medallion by the Field Naturalists Club in 1954.

In retirement Rupp donated his collection of 1500 specimens representing 470 species to the National Herbarium of NSW.

Inspired by Rupp's strong botanical legacy to Paterson and Lionel Gilbert's writings it was decided by Paterson Historical Society to place a permanent display in the Court House Museum as a tribute to Rupp.

Jack Sullivan of Newcastle had been researching Rupp as well and contributed papers published by Rupp in the Australian Naturalist and Linnean Society relating to Paterson to the display.

Ten days on the Upper Allyn River – 1926
Greenhoods of the Paterson District – 1927
Orchids of the Paterson District – 1927
Terrestrial Orchids of the Barrington Tops – 1928

The society's activities resulted in invited articles for "The Orchadian" Journal of the Australasian Native Orchid Society Inc (ANOS).

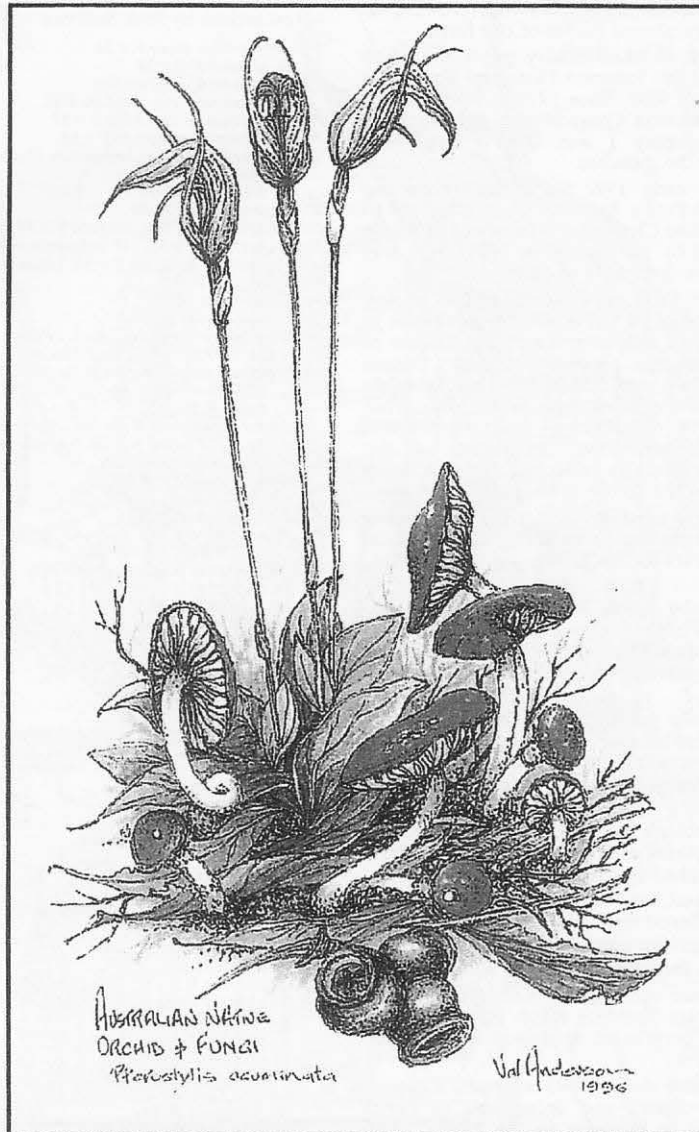
Acknowledgements following the ANOS articles were from ANOS (Walter T Upton); The Australian Biological Resources Study, Canberra (Dr H J Hewson) and The Botanic Gardens of Newcastle (Sue Herd).

"THE ORCHADIAN"
JOURNAL OF THE AUSTRALASIAN NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY INC
(ANOS)

The Orchadian

volume 11, Number 11

March, 1996



Australian Native
Orchid & Fungi
Pterostylis acuminata

Val Anderson
1996

Journal of The Australasian Native Orchid Society Inc.

THE ORCHID MAN OF PATERSON

Val Anderson,
Honorary Curator, Paterson Court House Museum,
3 Lexington Parade, Adamstown Heights, N.S.W. 2289

HERMAN MONTAGUE RUCKER RUPP, B.A. — 1872-1956
RECTOR OF PATERSON, N.S.W. — 1924-30

In 1984 my husband Bill and I purchased a cattle grazing property at Martins Creek, a small village near the town of Paterson in the lower Hunter Valley, N.S.W.

Being lovers of nature and growers of orchids (Bill was foundation treasurer of the Newcastle Group of A.N.O.S.) we soon noticed native orchids growing on the hills and in the rainforest gullies of our farm.

Our dual interest in local history prompted us to become members of the Paterson Historical Society, a small dedicated group who, since 1974 had maintained a museum at the Paterson Court House. Seemingly to have a flair for display I was quickly appointed honorary curator of the museum.

My research in early 1992 for a display on the former rectory of St Paul's Anglican Church led me to read a book by Pauline Clements, "History of St Paul's Paterson" published by the author in 1984. In it was listed the incumbents from 1834 to 1980.

Vague replies to local calls prompted me to ring Dennis Rowe, Archivist at University of Newcastle in the hope that I may be able to research the diocese of Newcastle records in the university library. Dennis recalled Lionel Gilbert, retired lecturer of Armidale researching Revd. Rupp some time previously. What followed can only be described as great excitement, enlightenment and tremendous awareness of the dedication of Revd. Rupp to collecting and describing native orchids during the six years he was in Paterson.

Lionel Gilbert was most co-operative in forwarding background notes from the vast collection of material gathered over the years for his publication, to be titled, "The Orchid Man".

Reference notes by Revd. Rupp to the abundance of terrestrial orchids in the mulga scrub on the outskirts of Paterson was on the Keppie property. What a site to behold it was in the spring — a carpet of native orchids for months!

Knowing that Mabs and Bill Keppie maintained the grounds of St James Church, Martins Creek I had drawn their attention earlier to another reference by Revd. Rupp — a small colony of greenhoods in the church grounds.

Sure enough, a colony of *Pterostylis curta* appeared, approximately 150 plants with sixty-odd flowers. These have been photographed and recorded.

Great local interest has been renewed in the quiet, dignified and much-loved man.

"The Orchid Man" by Lionel Gilbert is a real gem — the references to the Paterson district so valuable.

With the assistance of local historian, Jack Sullivan of Newcastle, a display board on Revd. Rupp has been mounted and is on permanent display at the Paterson Court House Museum.

It will be a pleasure during 1993 when the Keppie's (who are great naturalists and descendants of James Keppie who arrived in Paterson in the 1830's); Lyn Walsh, a lecturer at Tocal Agricultural College and I plan to retrace the orchid recordings of Herman Montague Rucker Rupp — THE ORCHID MAN OF PATERSON.

From *The Australian Naturalist*, journal of the Naturalists' Society of New South Wales. Volume 7, Part 1, Pages 11 and 12, June, 1927.

TABULATED LIST OF ORCHIDS FOUND NEAR PATERSON, FROM OCTOBER, 1924 TO APRIL, 1927 BY THE REV. H. M. R. RUPP

Researched by Jack Sullivan — Newcastle.

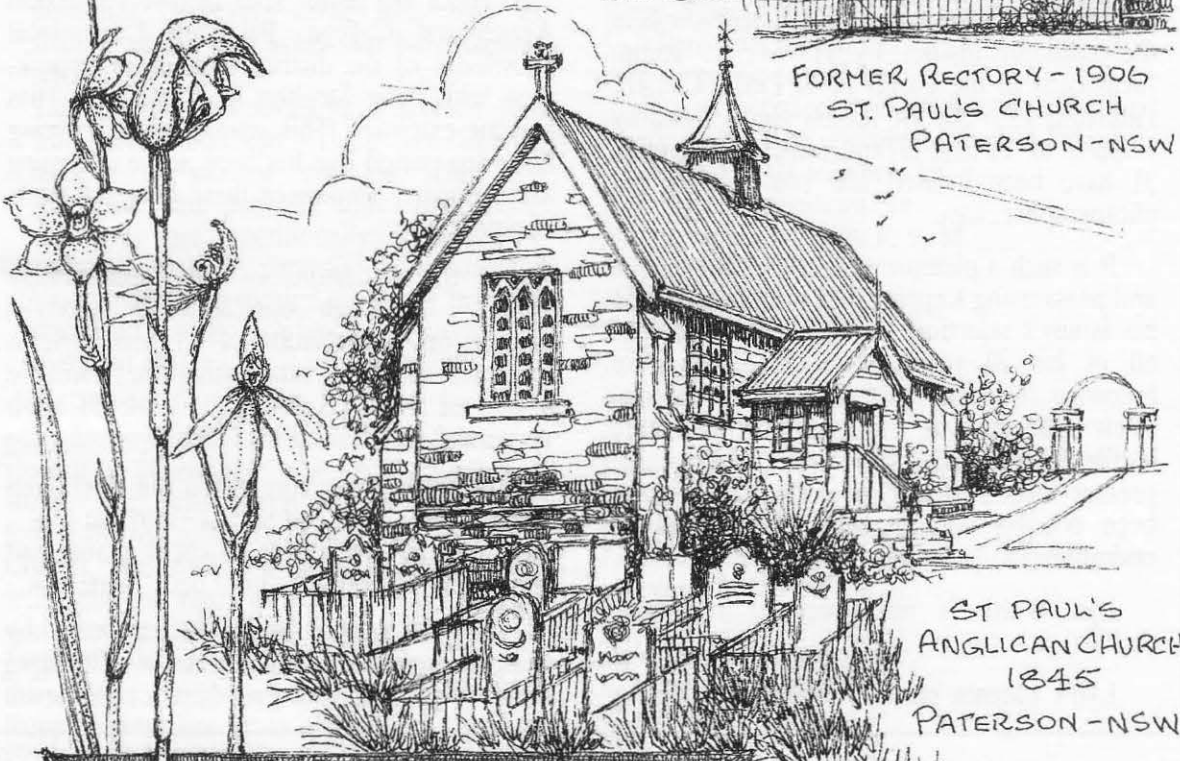
- Bulbophyllum elisae* F.v.M.
- B. shepherdi* F.v.M.
- Dendrobium speciosum* Sm.
- D. speciosum* var. *nitidum* Bail.
- D. speciosum* var. *hillii* F.v.M.
- Dendrobium gracilicaule* F.v.M.
- D. gracilicaule* var. *howeanum* Maiden
- D. aemulum* R.Br.
- D. linguiforme* Swz.
- D. teretifolium* R.Br.
- D. teretifolium* var. *fairfaxii* F.v.M.
- D. beckeri* F.v.M. (*D. schoeninum*)
- Sarcochilus divitiflorus* F.v.M. (*Rhinerrhiza divitiflora*)
- S. falcatus* R.Br.
- S. olivaceus* Lindl.
- S. hillii* F.v.M.
- Cleisostoma tridentatum* Lindl. (*Plectorrhiza tridentata*)
- C. beckeri* F.v.M. (*Papillilabium beckeri*)
- Cymbidium canaliculatum* R.Br.
- C. albuciflorum* F.v.M. (*C. madidum*)
- C. suave* R.Br.
- Calanthe veratrifolia* R.Br. (*C. triplicata*)
- Galeola cassythoides* Reichb. (*Erythrorchis cassythoides*)
- Dipodium punctatum* R.Br.
- Calochilus campestris* R.Br.
- Thelymitra ixioides* Lindl.
- T. canaliculata* R.Br.
- T. pauciflora* R.Br.
- T. carnea* R.Br.
- Diuris punctata* Sm.
- D. aurea* Sm.
- D. sulphurea* R.Br.
- D. palachila* Rogers
- D. pallens* Fitzg.
- D. sp.*
- Prasophyllum nigricans* R.Br.
- P. eriochilum* Fitzg.
- P. sp.*
- Corysanthes fimbriata* R.Br. (*Corybas fimbriatus*)
- C. pruinosa* R. Cunn (*Corybas pruinosis*)
- C. aconitiflores* Salisb. (*Corybas aconitiflorus*)
- Microtis porrifolia* R.Br.
- M. parviflora* R.Br.
- M. oblonga* Rogers
- Pterostylis ophioglossa* R.Br.
- P. concinna* R.Br.
- P. acuminata* R.Br.
- P. curta* R.Br.
- P. nutans* R.Br.
- P. pedunculata* R.Br.
- P. obtusa* R.Br.
- P. reflexa* R.Br.
- P. revoluta* R.Br.
- P. truncata* Fitzg.
- P. mutica* R.Br.
- P. rufa* R.Br.
- P. longifolia* R.Br.
- Cyrtostylis reniformis* R.Br.
- Acianthus exsertus* R.Br.
- A. fornicatus* R.Br.
- Eriochilus autumnalis* R.Br.
- Lyperanthus suaveolens* R.Br.
- Caladenia carnea* R.Br.
- C. alba* R.Br.
- C. caerulea* R.Br.
- Chiloglottis trapeziformis* Fitzg.
- Glossodia major* R.Br.
- G. minor* R.Br.

"THE ORCHADIAN"
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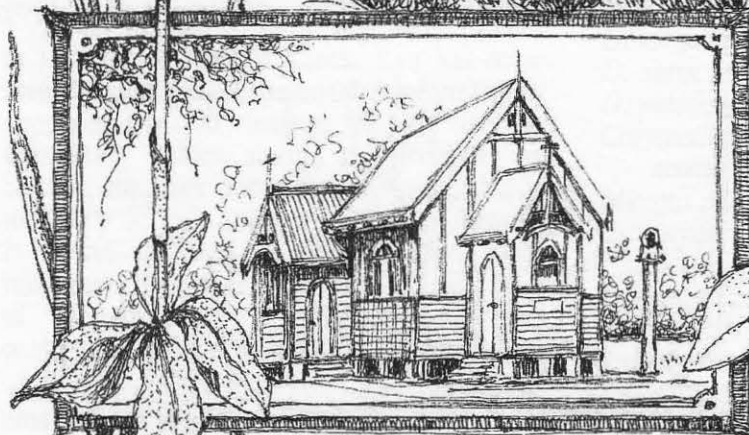
THE ORCHID MAN OF PATERSON
HERMAN MONTAGUE RUCKER RUPP-BA
1872 - 1956
RECTOR OF PATERSON - NSW
1924 - 30



FORMER RECTORY - 1906
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH
PATERSON - NSW



ST PAUL'S
ANGLICAN CHURCH
1845
PATERSON - NSW



ST JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH - 1928
MARTINS CREEK - NSW

Val Anderson - 1993

LtOr. *Thelymitra pauciflora* RBv
Pterostylis curta RBv
Caladenia alba RBv
Sarcochilus olivaceus Lindl

"THE ORCHADIAN"

VOLUME 11 – NUMBER 3 – MARCH 1994

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF REVD. H. M. R. RUPP THE ORCHID MAN OF PATERSON

Val Anderson
Honorary Curator
Paterson Court House Museum
Paterson Historical Society, Paterson, N.S.W. 2421

... and the search goes on!

Twelve months have passed and our small group, Bill and Mabs Keppie, Lyn Walsh, the writer and husband Bill are as enthusiastic as ever to retrace the native orchid recordings in the Paterson district by H. M. R. Rupp; Incumbent of the Parish of St Paul's Church, Paterson, 1926-30. Of the 68 plants listed by Rupp in an 11 mile (17km) radius of Paterson, 31 have been located and recorded by our photographer, Lyn.

It is such a pleasure to work with the quiet and unassuming Keppies. Bill, who has lived on his family's selection, "Glenflossie", Paterson* all of his 70 years, was joined by Mabs following their marriage nearly 50 years ago. Their understanding and knowledge of nature in the Paterson district is remarkable — the present success of our project could not have been possible without their tremendous co-operation.

Lyn Walsh is no newcomer to native orchids.

Lyn's parents citrus orchard at Somersby

backs onto Crown Land and as a child Lyn inherited her parents love of bush orchids. Since moving to Martins Creek (a small rural area close to Paterson) with husband Brian in 1986 (both are senior staff members at Tocal Agricultural College, Paterson) Lyn's local knowledge of the district, first on horseback, then with baby Stephen in a backpack, has become extensive. This year during the spring flowering period Lyn has been active informing local property owners of these beautiful gems of nature.

For the Andersons — it is "second time around". Although our forté is epiphytic natives, our appreciation of terrestrials stems from our early days establishing the Newcastle Group of A.N.O.S. with good friends, Bob Raine and the late Bill Murdoch.

Bill and I have accompanied Bill, Mabs and Lyn on many weekend sorties "into the hills", but their mid-week trips to check plants and photographic conditions have been numerous.

The quality of soil in the district covered by Rupp is interesting. Cameron Archer, Principal of Tocal, Paterson, President of Paterson

Continued on next page



Dendrobium linguiforme
Sketch - Val Anderson

In the footsteps of Revd. H. M. R. Rupp — The Orchid Man of Paterson

Historical Society, local historian and a great supporter of our endeavours, with Dave Brouwer, also of Tocal have kindly prepared the following:-

The soils in the Martins Creek area consist of three land systems. The low lands are of mostly a deep brown podzolic soil, the higher horizons being a light sandy loam over heavy clay sub soil.

The more hilly country is also a brown podzolic. However, some soils may be shallow earths with areas that have skeletal soils.

The mountainous areas have skeletal soils with rocky outcrops. There are isolated patches of shallow cracking clays and solonchic and podzolic soils. In general, the soils are nutritionally impoverished and of limited potential agriculturally. Vegetation is of spotted gum and ironbark woodland with rainforest remnants in sheltered places.

In Bill Keppie's words, ". . . it's not much good for anything!" Mabs has found *Spiranthes sinensis* on "Glenlossie". This was not listed by Rupp. The large colony of *Pterostylis curta* found by Mabs in the grounds of St James Church, Martins Creek last year has flowered well again this year. To Mabs delight, this year she recorded a small patch of *Microtis parviflora* also in the church grounds. However, the elusive *Pterostylis truncata* which pleased Rupp so much has yet to appear.

In her wanderings in the high ridge country to the east of Martins Creek, Lyn has come across a most unusual remnant rainforest gully approximately 90 metres by 40 metres. Completely hidden around the perimeter by lantana, the floor comprises fractured volcanic rock very difficult to negotiate on foot, hosting in places, as well as on ficus and other rainforest trees, well over one hundred plants of *Dendrobium linguiforme* and one outstanding plant of *Sarcochilus falcatus*.

We eagerly await a visit from Bob Raine next year to identify an exceptional *Caladenia* found by Lyn well up in the hills behind Paterson's town water supply tank. ✓

A recent presentation to Paterson Court

House Museum of copies of Rupp's Paterson letters, research material and photographs by Lionel Gilbert, used by Lionel in his superb book, "The Orchid Man", has added greater momentum to our already buoyant enthusiasm.

We plan to commence our search earlier in 1994, this time across the Paterson River into the Mt. Johnson area where we hope to find more sitings of the native orchids recorded so many years ago by Herman Montague Rucker Rupp, THE ORCHID MAN OF PATERSON.

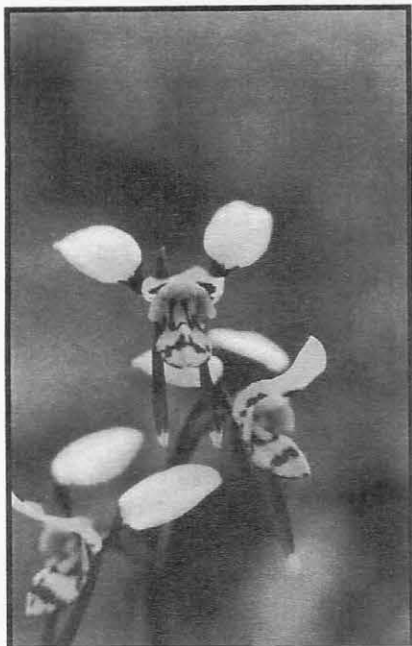
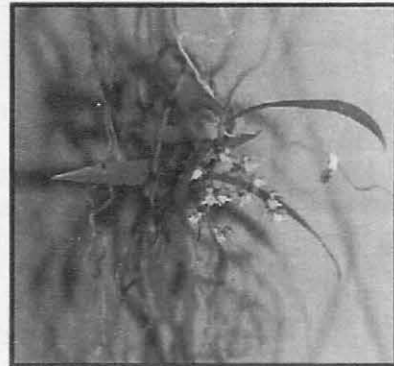
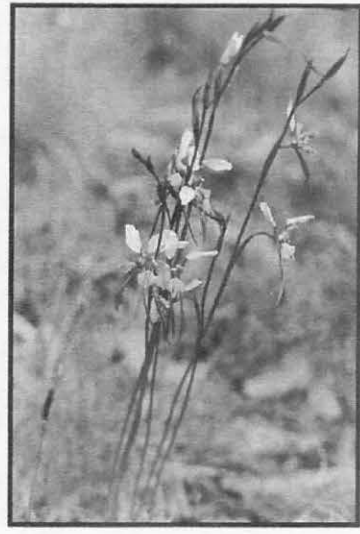
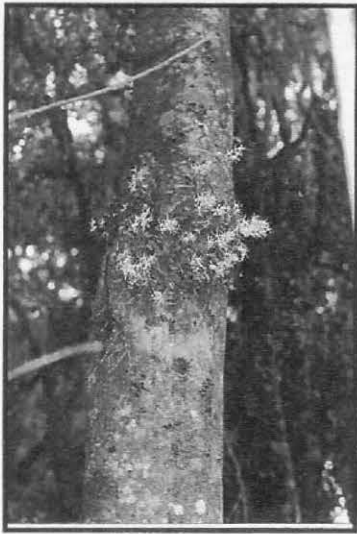
* "Glenlossie", Paterson is private property with no public access.

List of native orchids found to date from Revd. H. M. R. Rupp's recordings at Paterson — October, 1924 to April, 1927:-

- Dendrobium speciosum* Sm.
- D. speciosum* var. *hillii* F. v. M.
- D. gracilicaule* F. v. M.
- D. aemulum* R.Br.
- D. linguiforme* Sw. (Plate 5)
- D. teretifolium* R.Br.
- Sarcochilus falcatus* R.Br.
- S. hillii* F. v. M.
- Cleisostoma tridentatum* Lindl. (*Plectorrhiza tridentata*) (Plate 9)
- Cymbidium suave* R.Br.
- Galeola cassythoides* Reichb. (*Erythrorchis cassythoides*) (Plate 6)
- Dipodium punctatum* R.Br.
- Calochilus campestris* R.Br.
- Thelymitra ixiooides* Lindl.
- T. pauciflora* R.Br.
- T. carnea* R.Br.
- Diuris punctata* Sm. (Plate 7)
- D. aurea* Sm.
- D. palachila* Rogers (Plate 10)
- Corysanthes aconitiflores* Salisb. (*Corybas aconitiflorus*) (Plate 8)
- Microtis parviflora* R.Br.
- Pterostylis acuminata* R.Br.
- P. curta* R.Br.
- P. nutans* R.Br.
- Acianthus fornicatus* R.Br.
- Lyperanthus suaveolens* R.Br.
- Caladenia carnea* R.Br.
- C. alba* R.Br.
- C. caerulea* R.Br.
- Glossodia major* R.Br.
- G. minor* R.Br.



"THE ORCHADIAN"
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Photos - Lyn Walsh - Tocal College

Sarcochilus hillii
Sketch – Val Anderson

"THE ORCHADIAN"

VOLUME 11 - NUMBER 10 - DECEMBER 1995

HERMAN MONTAGUE RUCKER RUPP THE ORCHID MAN OF PATERSON

Val Anderson
Honorary Curator
Paterson Court House Museum
Paterson N.S.W. 2421

"It is the unique character of the orchid flower that has always held me spellbound."

H. M. R. Rupp - July, 1946

It is now three years since Bill and Mabs Keppie, life members of Paterson Historical Society commenced retracing the native orchid listings of Revd. H. M. R. Rupp, incumbent of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Paterson 1926-1930.

It is hard to estimate the number of kilometres walked and driven by Mabs and Bill in their quest to trace the steps of this much-loved gentle man. The Keppies "place", *Glenlossie* was visited many times by Revd. Rupp during his wanderings around the hills of Paterson, a small rural town in the lower Hunter Valley.

Mabs often brings specimens to our society meetings particularly when a plant has been found that is not on Rupp's listing. Bill and Mabs affinity with the land and their knowledge of Paterson is quite remarkable — Bill was introduced to native orchids by his father and he in turn by his father.

Bill and Mabs four children and their families have settled on *Glenlossie* and as each grandchild is able to appreciate the beautiful surroundings they are introduced to nature and the charm and uniqueness of our native orchids.

The main feature at the Tocal Field Days was the Rupp project while at the Paterson Valley Landcare booth, Mabs folio created much interest.

Dr Bill Hunter of Seaham, a nearby village, has become aware of the Paterson enthusiasm and is also recording native orchids on his property. Last season Bill identified *Caladenia carnea*, *C. catenata*, *Calochilus robertsonii*,

Diuris chrysantha, *Dipodium punctatum*, *Microtis parviflora*, *Thelymitra pauciflora* and *Spiranthes sinensis*.

Tremendous help is being given with identification by Sue Herd, former secretary of Newcastle A.N.O.S. and at present Director — Established Gardens and Facilities at the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens, Raymond Terrace.

The project would not have been complete without the encouragement of our President, Cameron Archer and the co-operation of his staff at Tocal Agricultural College, Paterson.

Thank you, Lionel Gilbert for your excellent book, "The Orchid Man."

Rest well Revd. Rupp, your love of our Australian native orchids is not forgotten in Paterson!

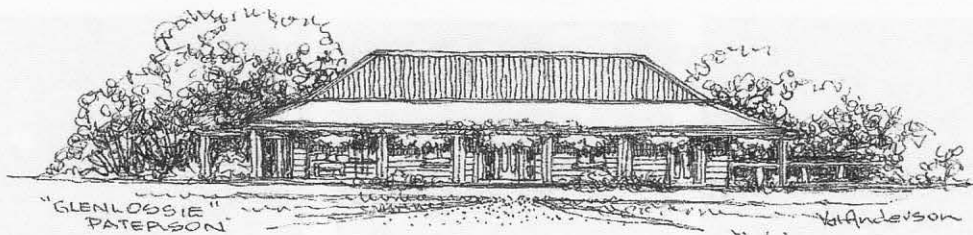
Orchids relocated for the first time in 1994 — Lyn Walsh, Tocal Agricultural College, Paterson:-

Sarcochilus olivaceus, *Thelymitra ixioides*, *Genoplesium rufum*, *G. acuminatum*, *G. pumilum*, *G. mollissimum*, *Corybas pruinosus*, *C. barbarae*, *Pterostylis ophioglossa*, *P. collina*, *P. concinna*, *P. pedunculata*, *P. obtusa*, *P. longifolia*, *P. reflexa*, *Cyrtostylis reniformis*, *Acianthus exsertus*, *Eriochilus autumnalis*, *Chiloglottis trapeziformis*, *C. reflexa*, *C. platyptera*.

This is the final article of the Revd. Rupp project conducted by members of the Paterson Historical Society. The two previous articles appeared in Volume 10, Number 12 and Volume 11, Number 3. ❀

THE "ORCHID HUNT"

FINAL REPORT BY MABS KEPPIE OF "GLENLOSSIE"



April 1997

Eighteen months have passed since our last report on orchids found in the Paterson district. Those found since are as follows:

| | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| October 1995 | - | <i>Chiliglottis formicifera</i> |
| December 1995 | - | " <i>sylvestris</i> |
| January 1996 | - | " <i>dyphylla</i> |
| " " | - | <i>Calochilus gracillimus</i> |
| " " | - | <i>Gen rupp</i> |
| " " | - | <i>Gen rupp</i> var <i>archeri</i> |
| " " | - | <i>Gen rufum</i> var <i>woollsii</i> |
| " " | - | <i>Arthrochilus proliscus</i> (elbow orchid) |
| November 1996 | - | <i>Pterostylis bicolor</i> |
| January 1997 | - | <i>Gen rufum</i> (an unnamed variety) |

All of these except *C sylvestris* were found in our *Melaleuca* scrub on "Glenlossie".

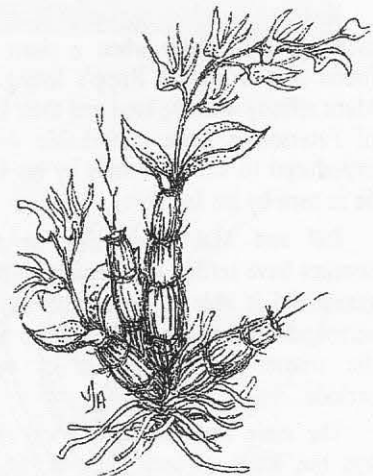
Many thanks to George Hillman of Nelson Bay, John Riley of Leumeah and David Jones, Canberra for their very valued assistance in identifying each new discovery.

For Bill and me, the "Orchid Hunt" has been a wonderful experience. We intend to keep on 'following in the Rev Rupp's footsteps' in the hope of eventually discovering the elusive *Pterostylis truncata* and *Diuris pallens*.

Mabs Keppie, "Glenlossie" – Paterson



Bill & Mabs Keppie planting a Rosewood tree in the Paterson Court House Museum grounds in 1993.



Dendrobium aemulum
Sketch – Val Anderson

In 1998 native orchids carpeted the scrub on "Glenlossie" at Martins Creek surpassing the 1992-93 terrestrial orchid season thought at that time by Mabs Keppie to be outstanding in her memory. The tree ironbark orchid, *Dendrobium aemulum* was also in full blossom again on Gresford Road – first recorded by Rupp in the 1920s – still there and still captivating.

PHS Museum News Vol 5 No 2 1998

Photo – Bill Anderson

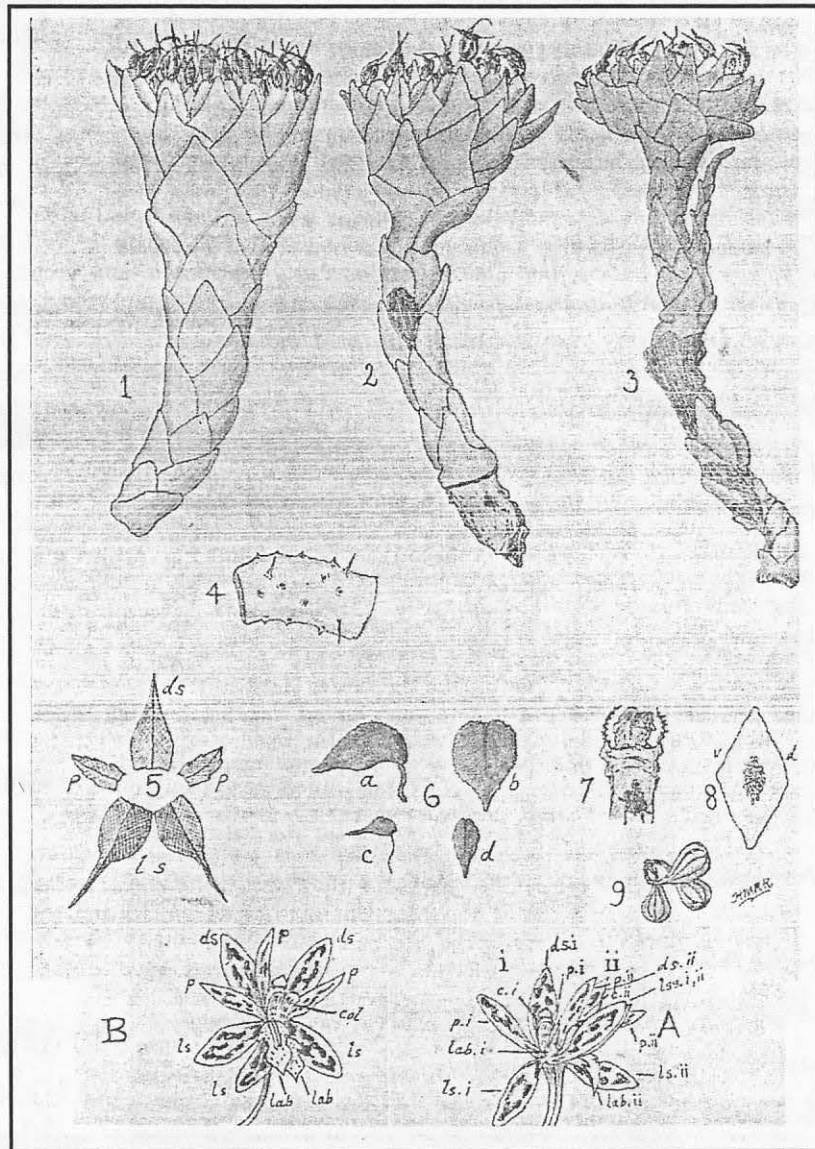
Rupp Display – Paterson Court House Museum

A CONTROLLED FASCINATION HIS ORCHIDS

"I am merely an amateur botanist..."

Rupp was to remark towards the end of a remarkable life.

Perhaps one of Rupp's most significant botanical activities was to describe a rare subterranean orchid, *Cryptanthemis slateri*¹ accidentally discovered by Earnest William Slater in November 1931 at Bulahdelah, the area considered by Rupp to be "a botanist's paradise".



Rev HMR Rupp's sketches of *Rhizanthella slateri*

Source – Notes on New South Wales Orchids by Rev H M R Rupp BA

Linnean Society Journal Vol 57 1932 read to the society by Rev Rupp – 30 March 1932

An orchid of similar habit had been discovered two years earlier to Slater's find in Western Australia creating a sensation in botanical circles, however the Bulahdelah plant was too distinct to be included in the WA genus named by Dr R S Rogers – *Rhizanthella*.

¹ *Cryptanthemis slateri* (now *Rhizanthella slateri*) germinates, grows and comes into flower beneath the surface of the soil.

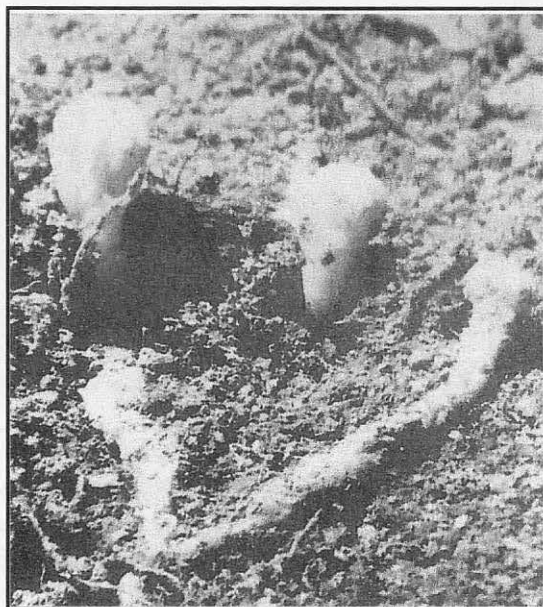
THE SUBTERRANEAN ORCHID

RHIZANTHELLA SLATERI

1931

The most remarkable Orchid discovered in N.S.W. within the period mentioned above, (1930 to 1938) also hails from Bullahdelah, and has not so far been recorded elsewhere. This is not surprising, for the whole plant is subterranean. It was found "accidentally" by Mr E W Slater in 1931. I shall always count myself exceptionally fortunate in that the first specimen of this extraordinary Orchid was sent to me. Mr. Slater enclosed it, as a curiosity, with some roots of Dipodium sent to Mr. F. J. Fieldsend of Maitland, and Mr. Fieldsend promptly forwarded it to me. Botanical circles had been stirred two years earlier by the astonishing discovery at Corrigin, in Western Australia, of an Orchid of subterranean habit. Dr. R. S. Rogers had sent me his description of this strange plant, which he named Rhizanthella gardneri. Directly I saw Mr. Slater's specimen I was confident that Rhizanthella was no longer unique; and within a week several more fragments of plants reached me. Though clearly belonging to the new Orchidaceous sub-tribe which Dr. Rogers had to create for Rhizanthella, the Bullahdelah plant would not fit into that genus, and I gave it the name Cryptanthemis slateri. Subsequently a grant from the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science enabled me to pay a visit to Bullahdelah, where, with the help of Dr H L Kesteven, six plants were unearthed, and photographs were secured in situ after "excavation," Shall we ever trace the causes which impelled this Orchid to its underground career?

Extract from "Recent Orchid discoveries in New South Wales and Queensland."
Rev H M R Rupp – Raymond Terrace NSW
Australian Orchid Review
June 1938.



Cryptanthemis slateri
Photo – Rev H M R Rupp

ONE OF RUPP'S HANDWRITTEN ORCHID LISTINGS OF
THE PATERSON DISTRICT

10 - 25 July 1925

Orchids of the Paterson District to July 10/25.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Bulbophyllum Shepherdii</i> (rare) | 27. <i>Diuris elongata</i> |
| 2. B. (still undetermined) | 28. D. <i>aurica</i> |
| 3. <i>Dendrobium speciosum</i> | 29. D. <i>sulphurea</i> |
| 4. D. (undetermined) | 30. <i>Corysanthes premissa</i> |
| 5. D. <i>acuminatum</i> | 31. <i>Microtis porrifolia</i> |
| 6. D. <i>gracilicaule</i> | 32. M. <i>parviflora</i> |
| 7. D. <i>linguiforme</i> | 33. M. <i>oblonga</i> |
| 8. D. <i>teretifolium</i> | 34. <i>Pterostylis ophioglossa</i> |
| 9. D. <i>Fairfaxii</i> | 35. P. <i>coarctata</i> |
| 10. D. <i>Beckleri</i> | 36. P. <i>curta</i> |
| 11. <i>Sarcophilus divitiflorus</i> | 37. P. <i>mutans</i> |
| 12. S. ? (undetermined) | 38. P. <i>obovata</i> |
| 13. S. <i>falcatius</i> | 39. P. <i>longifolia</i> |
| 14. S. <i>olivaceus</i> | 40. <i>Aciacanthus fornicatus</i> |
| 15. S. <i>Hillii</i> | 41. <i>Eriochilus autumnalis</i> |
| 16. <i>Cleisostoma tridentatum</i> | 42. <i>Lyptraanthus cravesolens</i> |
| 17. C. <i>Beckleri</i> | 43. <i>Caladenia cernea</i> . |
| 18. <i>Cymbidium canaliculatum</i> | |
| 19. C. <i>suave</i> (rare) | |
| 20. C. <i>albuciflorum</i> | |
| 21. <i>Calanthe veratrifolia</i> | |
| 22. <i>Laleola cassythoides</i> | |
| 23. <i>Dipodium punctatum</i> | |
| 24. <i>Calochilus campestris</i> | |
| 25. <i>Thelymitra ixioides</i> | |
| 26. T. <i>nuda</i> | |

I have seen *Dendrobium falcirostrum* from Barrington Tops, & have herbarium specimens from there of *Prasopphyllum odoratum* & *Diuris dendroboides*.

THE NEW CAMERA

During the early 1920s, having disposed of the larger part of his herbarium, Rupp decided to concentrate on the orchid family and in so doing was anxious to make acquaintance with another equally as fascinated specialist G V Scammell.¹ It was then that he commenced his long and valued friendship with George Scammell. Less formal correspondence over time led to suggestions by Scammell that Rupp should improve his photographic records - to which was Rupp's reply:

The Rectory, Paterson.
13. 7. 26.

Dear Mr. Scammell, Very many thanks for the specimens, & for your letter of 11th. inst. It is out of the question for me to go in for orchid-photography properly. What I do is merely to take ordinary $\frac{1}{4}$ pl. pictures now & then for my own use - though they are not much use. I tried enlarging them with an old magic lantern, & found I could get fairly effective pictures to give one a general impression of the subject. I cannot afford, & so far as I can see have no prospect of ever being able to afford, proper apparatus for taking good close-up pictures. Therefore, while I doubt in the least mind criticism, I'm afraid it won't effect much, because I can do no other than I am doing! As to backgrounds, I have experimented with all kinds, and have found dark good for some subjects & light for others. I should never dream of suggesting my pictures as making any serious contribution to the study of orchids - but they have a certain amount of usefulness in giving general impressions where I am powerless to give more.

Kind regards yours sincerely
HARRUPP

¹ George Vance Scammell, BSc. ARACI, FCS (1903-86), Director, F H Faulding & Co Ltd 1928-64, Commissioner Australian Red Cross, 1942-5. He began corresponding with Rupp in April 1926 and later provided most of the line drawings for Rupp's "The Orchids of New South Wales - 1943." Courtesy - "The Orchidman" Lionel Gilbert

Scammell then offered a new camera - Rupp's reply -

The Rectory, Paterson.
23. 7. 26.

Dear Mr. Scammell I had an idea I owed you a letter - but I didn't look it up: I was going to tackle some orchid letters on Tuesday, but a terrible tragedy here that morning upset everything. I was talking to a man here at 7.30 A.M. - a fine fellow, & one of the very few progressive farmers as here - & less than an hour afterwards I had to go out & break the news to his wife that the Duff of train had run him down & smashed him to pulp (literally). It is very kind of you indeed to offer me that camera: indeed I hardly know what to say about it. Although I used to do a lot of photography, & am fairly good at landscapes & trees (there are a few of mine in Maiden's Forest Flora), I really don't know much about it. I started with a Victor No. 1, & had the luck to strike a remarkably good lens. Then about 1911 a friend gave me a Victor No. 6 fitted with an Ensign lens & bulb attachment, & I have used that ever since, & have never used a dark slide camera. But I confess I should like to have a go if

I don't prove a duffer at it!

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely

H. M. Rupp.

A week later the new camera arrives!

The Rectory, Paterson.
26. 7. 26.

Dear Mr. Scammell, The camera & accessories arrived safely this morning - once more, my very best thanks. I am not at all sure but that I had better wait till you come up before I experiment with it, because as I explained, I have had no experience with other but box cameras, & don't understand the mechanism. I haven't the faintest idea how the dark slides are worked! nor do I know of anyone here who could enlighten me. However, I'll investigate cautiously & see if I can do anything.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

Sturk Ruff.

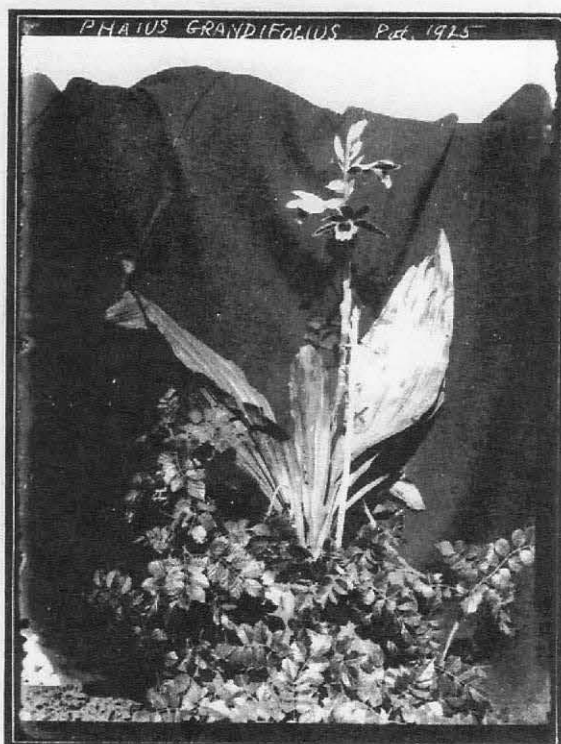
Later. I fancy that after all I can ferret out the mechanism.

PHOTOS TAKEN BY REV RUPP WITH HIS NEW CAMERA

Perhaps one of the most exciting memories of field outings with Bill and Mabs Keppie was when my Bill and I were taken, no explanation as to why, up into the hills behind "Glenlossie" at Paterson. It was quite a hike and we were pleased to stop, not for a "breather" but to be told by Bill to turn around and "look up there" - it was *Galeola cassythoides*, our first ever viewing of the climbing leafless orchid in situ! What a buzz.



Galeola cassythoides
Paterson
(now *Erythrorchis cassythoides*)

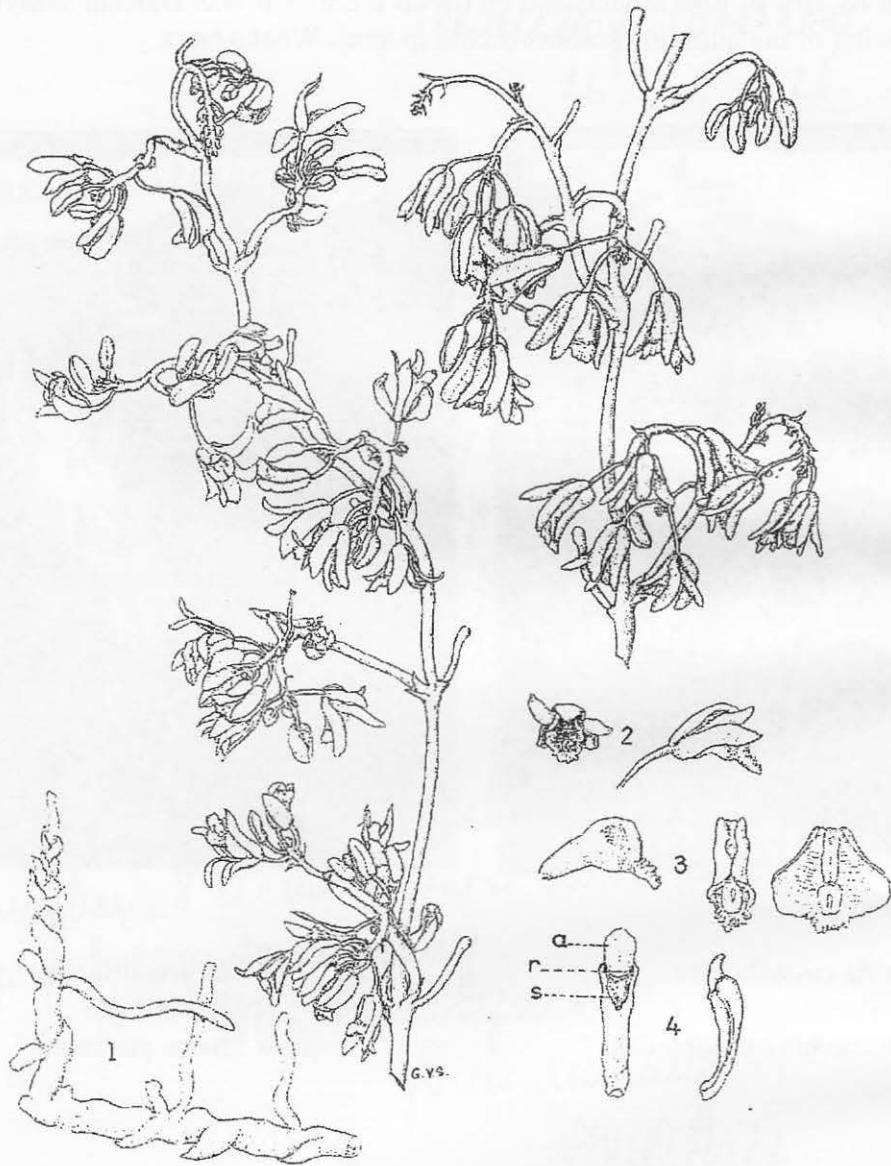


Phaius grandifolius
Paterson 1925
(now *Phaius australis*)

Galeola cassythoides (climbing leafless orchid) known for some time to be growing high in the hills behind "Glenlossie" has also been found on the flats in scrub on one of the Keppie boy's properties.

GALEOLA CASSYTHOIDES

Plate XVIII.



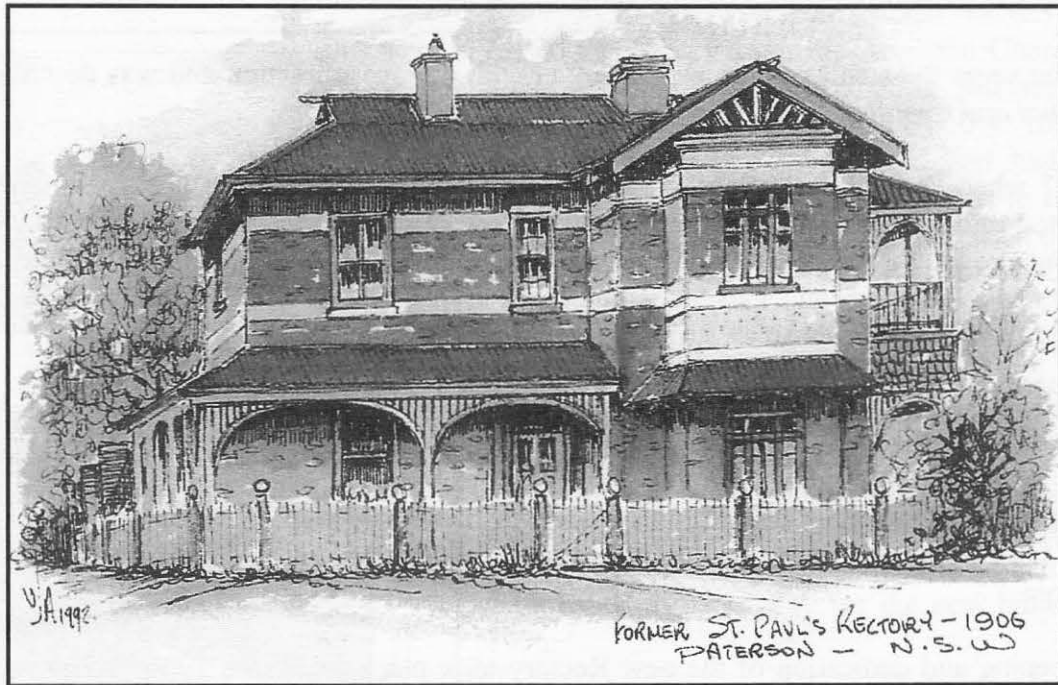
GALEOLA CASSYTHOIDES (A. Cunn.) Reichb. f.

Portions of two branches, about half natural size. 1, Portion of an underground rhizome. 2, Flower, front and side view. 3, Labellum, from the side, from above, and from above with the lamina flattened out. 4, Column, front and side views. 1 and 2 slightly reduced; 3 and 4 slightly enlarged. *a*, anther. *r*, rostellum. *s*, stigma.

One of the beautiful line drawings by George V Scammell of orchids for Rupp's 1943 "The Orchids of New South Wales"

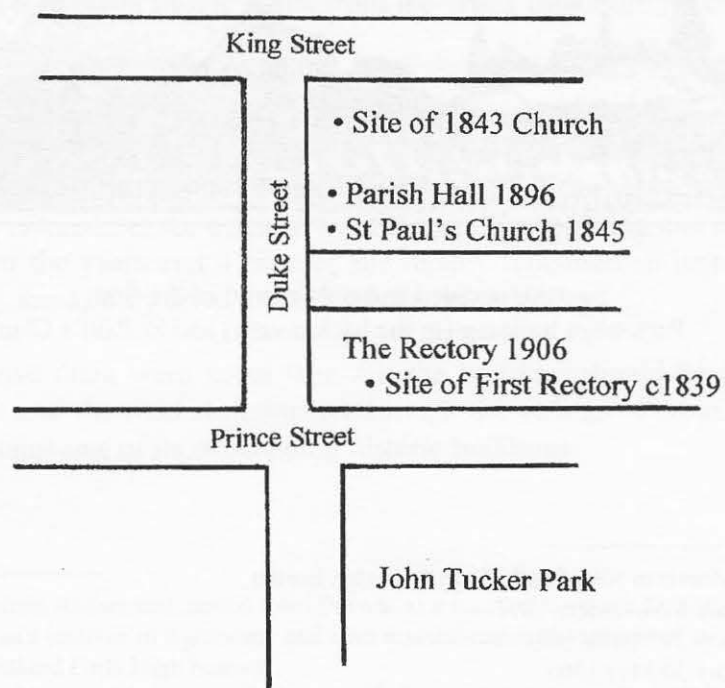
(From a treasured 1943 edition of the above given to the author by the late Harry Boyle OAM)

ANGLICAN PRECINCT
DUKE STREET
PATERSON



The Rectory – Former St Paul’s Anglican Church Rectory
Rupp Display Paterson Court House Museum
Sketch – Val Anderson

Site Plan
St Paul’s Church – Parish Hall – Rectory – Paterson



THE RECTORY

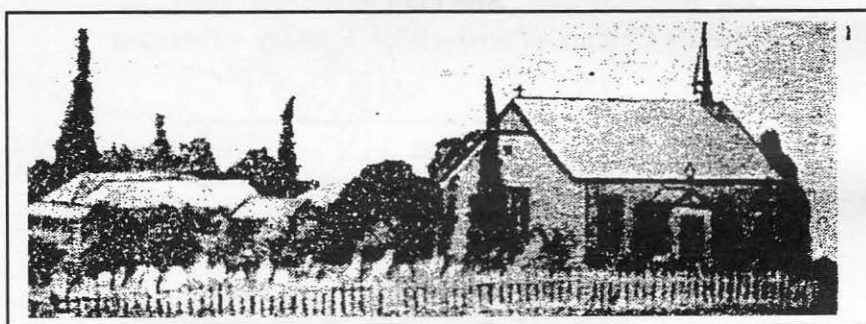
In Bishop Broughton's 1838-39 report he notes the Paterson Parsonage as *almost complete*. When Rev J Jennings Smith arrived in Paterson in 1839 there was no finished parsonage and they lodged at the Old Red House on the hill. The next mention of the parsonage house was in May 1841 to record the birth of a daughter to the Jennings Smiths.

Over the years the small cottage was enlarged with no clear direction and was described as *old, squat and rambling*.¹

In 1897 when St Paul's was closed for about four months for repairs, the Parsonage was renovated throughout as well and made much more comfortable at a cost of about £85, the work supervised by J W Scobie and carried out by John Irving, both of West Maitland.² (Repairs to the Church and Parsonage and the building of a new Sunday School Hall was financed from the sale of a small strip of church land to the CBC Bank in 1893)³

Towards the end of 1902 there was concern again expressed about the building (now referred to as The Rectory). It was decided that some immediate repairs be made in 1903 prior to the arrival of the new incumbent, the Rev Stephen Taylor BA.⁴ Plans for a new rectory began soon after and a bazaar for the building fund in 1905 raised £147 18s 4½d. The new Rectory would be a two-storeyed home of modern style replete with modern conveniences and a bathroom.⁵

The opening and dedication of the new Rectory took place 31 March 1906 at 3 pm by the newly elected Bishop of Newcastle (John Francis Stretch DD) on his first visit to Paterson. Great credit was paid to the architect W Haughton Bett and contractor W Taylor and Son, both of West Maitland and to the supervisor J W Scobie. The new Rectory was built on the site of the first 1839 rectory at a cost of £675.



An undated and only record of the first Parsonage building (in the background) and St Paul's Church.

¹ "Religion and Morals in New South Wales" – Judge Burton.

² *Maitland Mercury* 6 November 1897

³ *Maitland Mercury* 29 March 1893

⁴ *Maitland Mercury* 30 May 1903

⁵ *Maitland Mercury* 11 March 1906

THE RECTORY THE ARCHER PERIOD

Rupp left the Rectory at the end of 1929 and by 1975 the state of the building was of growing concern to the Diocese.



Photo – Cameron Archer

In 1975 Cameron and Jean Archer¹ moved in and leased the rectory from the Anglican Church. In 1976 they finalised the purchase and set about restoration of the building. By that time the building was over 70 years old and had some modern services added to it but it was in need of thorough restoration. In addition all the cedar timberwork except for a few items had been painted.

Over the next 12 years the building was fully restored with all the cedar joinery stripped and refinished. After research it became clear that much of the cedar joinery had come from an earlier house and obviously this was probably the former rectory on the site which had been demolished to make way for the new building in 1906.²

The most outstanding features reclaimed from the earlier house were the three sets of French doors and shutters that face onto the east overlooking John Tucker Park.

As part of this conservation the grounds were excavated and the main garden bed to the east was identified as being a foundation from the original Rectory. The mortar in the garden bed surrounds is still seen to contain oyster shells from the crude lime burning techniques of the day.

Part of the overall project was the construction of a two storey timber and iron shed at the rear of the house. This replaced a lean-to type garage which used to run parallel to Duke Street. Research and restoration also found some iron caps from the front fence and a few pickets which were copied to reconstruct the original front fence. The building and its grounds were faithfully restored over the years and it ensured the rectory remained an iconic house within Paterson for visitors to see as they drive through the Paterson Valley.

At the time of purchase there were some who felt the building should be demolished, the bricks used elsewhere and the road straightened through the village. Fortunately this didn't occur and Paterson retains one of its outstanding historic buildings.

¹ At this time Cameron & Jean Archer had moved from Darwin as a result of Cyclone Tracey. Cameron joined the staff of Tocal College as a lecturer in Agronomy and Jean was subsequently appointed as a member of the English Department at Maitland Girls High School.

² Consultation with National Trust of Australia. References on Rectory plans by architect W. Haughton Bett.

In 1987 the Rectory was sold to the present owner. It went on the real estate market again in December 2004 and was passed in at auction.

Present on the auction day was Rupp's granddaughter Sandra Bembrick, her husband Keith and their two daughters.



Cameron Archer and Sandra Bembrick in front of portion of the Court House Museum Exhibit on display at the Rectory Auction Day
11 December 2004

Photo – Bill Anderson



There has been no evidence found of Rupp's bush house or his fernery at the Rectory.
Photo - Courtesy Sandra Bembrick

"I suspect that most of Rupp's rectory bush houses were rather temporary structures - he carried his plants with him from place to place - no doubt to the concern of the removalists!"¹

¹ Personal correspondence by the author with Lionel Gilbert in 1992

THE RECTORY



The Rectory when purchased by the Archers in 1976



The Rectory
Not long after purchase looking east to John Tucker Park and showing foundations of
the 1839 Parsonage.
Photos – Cameron Archer.

**ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST JAMES
MARTINS CREEK
1928
A NEW CHURCH IS BUILT!**

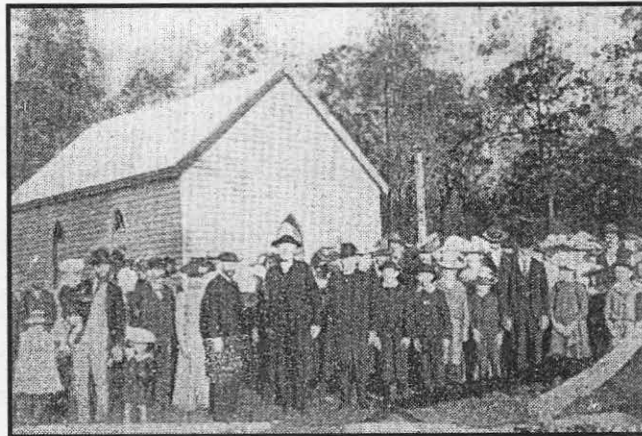
A significant result of Rupp's ministry in the Parish was the building and dedication of St James Church at Martins Creek. The first church at Martins Creek, a small hamlet near Paterson, was a simple wooden building opened for services in 1899 by Bishop Stanton. Services prior to this were held in a barn nearby owned by a Mr E Burt Sen. Rupp was immediately concerned about the condition of the church building on his arrival to Paterson in 1924.

In correspondence to the Anglican Diocese in April 1925 Rupp pointed out that St James was suffering badly from white ant infestation, was either in need of major repairs or replacement and requested the services of an expert or architect.¹ In a further request in 1927 Rupp states

We have decided to pull down the present little unsightly "Barn" and build anew. We propose to sell much of the old timber and roofing as is of any value and add the proceeds to the building fund.²

J W Scobie of Maitland adapted plans drawn for a new church planned for Greta, finances were arranged and work began. Following an unavoidable postponement from 28 May³ to 19 June 1928⁴ Bishop Long journeyed from Newcastle to perform the dedication ceremony of the new church.

Mr G Priestley spoke in appreciation of the builders Vince Hall and Charlie Maurer. However the day was not without incident for the Bishop, when on his return journey to Newcastle found the inclement weather caused his car to become bogged at Mindaribba. Locals came to the rescue and the Bishop and his party were transported back to the Rectory to spend the night with the Ruppss.



First church at Martins Creek. Opened for service by Bishop Stanton in 1899.
Services were held previously in a barn owned by Mr E. Burt, Snr.

¹ Letter 3 April 1925 – Rupp to Diocese – Archives – University of Newcastle.

² Letter 27 July 1927 – Rupp to Diocese – Archives – University of Newcastle.

³ *Maitland Mercury* 6 June 1928

⁴ *Maitland Mercury* 25 June 1928

ST JAMES CHURCH – 1928 MARTINS CREEK



In Rupp's writings he made reference to *Pterostylis curta* in St James churchyard at Martins Creek. This was drawn to Mabs Keppie's attention and in July 1992 it was noted that approximately 150 plants produced 60 flowers. From that time *P. curta* has been monitored regularly, not always with a strong flowering but with consistent plant growth.

In 1993 Mabs also noted *Microtis parviflora* in the church grounds.

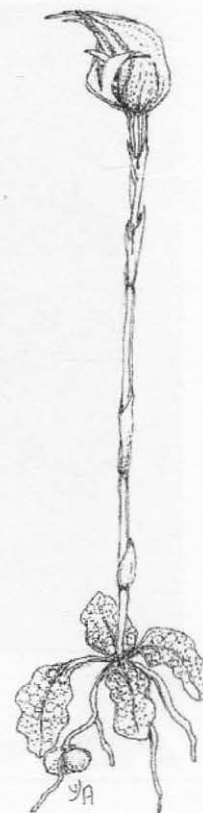


Pterostylis truncata

"A couple of Sundays ago I nearly trod on a great colony of remarkable fine P.truncata in Martins Creek churchyard. This is a comparatively rare species - a large flower on a very stumpy stalk - I had not seen it since 1914, and had been anxious to get it, and had many enquiries for it - wherefore the local school-master mistook my joy for temporary aberration."

Rupp's personal writings

Rupp's "favourite" terrestrial, the elusive *P. truncata* was finally found several years ago by local naturalists Mabs and Bill Keppie in the hills behind their property, "Glenlossie" Martins Creek.



Pterostylis curta

Sketches – Val Anderson

ST PAUL'S SUNDAY SCHOOL AND PARISH HALL 1896

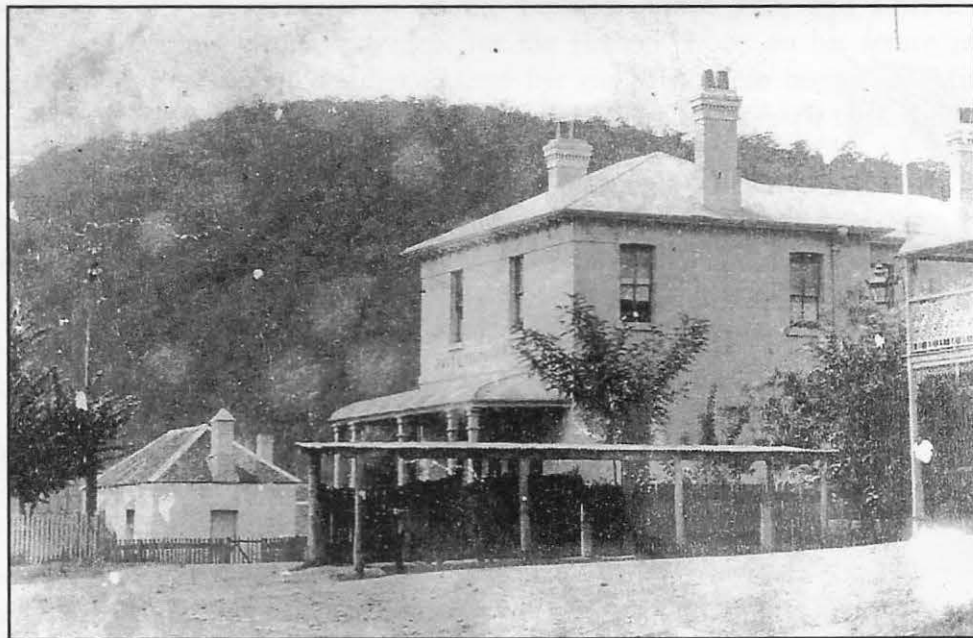
*Thursday, 26th March 1896 is a day to be noted in the chronicles of Paterson as the date of the enthusiastic opening of the exceedingly pretty and substantial schoolroom, an offspring of St Paul's Church.
Maitland Mercury 4 April 1896.*

The new Sunday School Hall was built to replace a small stone building on the corner of King and Duke Streets erected by Rev John Jennings Smith in 1843 to provide church and school accommodation for a town which did not have either form of building.

St Paul's church was finally built in 1845 but the schoolhouse went through uncertain times and in 1893 the church land on which it stood was sold and the proceeds used to build a much needed hall.

At the opening of the new hall the Sunday School bell was rung for more than ten minutes to an overflowing congregation. That evening the hall was dedicated and opened by the Bishop of Newcastle, Rev J Shaw. After the service a public tea was served in the School of Arts, the celebrations culminating in a concert with local talent performing at their best. The Rev Shaw warmly thanked all those for making the day so successful and one of the happiest evenings for some time in Paterson.

The cost of the new building was about £240 and takings on the day amounted to £6.



In the background is the old Schoolhouse built in 1843 and used as a church prior to the erection of St Paul's, Paterson.

From an old photograph lent by Mr E Wilson for the St Paul's, Paterson, Souvenir Booklet, 1929.

ST PAUL'S SUNDAY SCHOOL AND PARISH HALL 1896

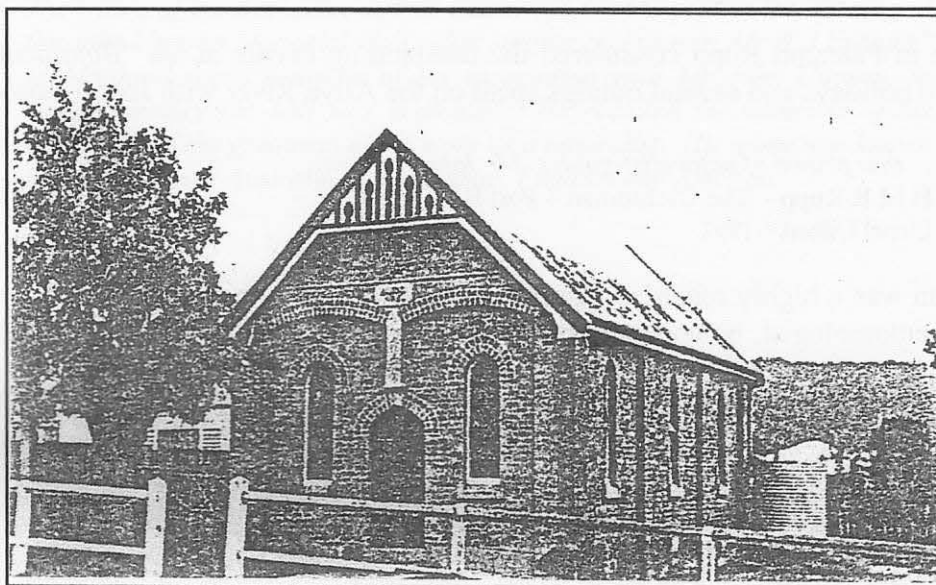
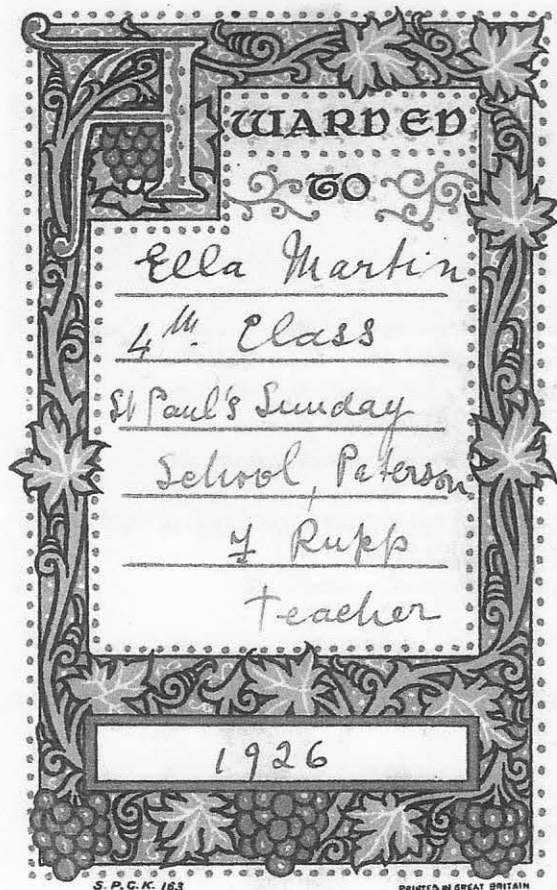


Photo: Clive Lucas – 1967
National Trust of Australia



Florence Mabel Dowe (1879-1956) at the time of her marriage to the Rev H M R Rupp in December 1904.

JOHN HOPSON
1867 - 1928
'Dalkeith', Eccleston NSW

Of his time in Paterson Rupp considered the outstanding events in his "*Botanical Doings*" were the two holidays and several outings spent on the Allyn River with John Hopson.

... that prince of naturalist-guides, Mr John Hopson
H M R Rupp – The Orchidman – Part II
Lionel Gilbert – 1992

John Hopson was a highly regarded naturalist farmer skilled in bushcraft - his knowledge as an amateur entomologist, botanist and ornithologist was in great demand from authorities in these fields. Many species of insects and plants bear his name.

An extract from John Hopson's Barrington Tops Log of Visitors with comments -

Orchids and beetles may not have much in common – but the orchid-hunter will gratefully remember three delightful and fruitful excursions with his guide and mentor – the beetle hunter! May the choicest of beetles fall to his bottle!

H M R Rupp
St Paul's Rectory
22.10.25

Courtesy - Margaret Dent
"Yambarwoota" Lostock

In January 1928 Rupp camped for four days on the plateau at Barrington Tops with his old friend John Hopson. During this stay Rupp identified 23 specimens of terrestrial orchids in the area and honoured Hopson when he named a native orchid *Prasophyllum hopsonii*, first discovered on one of his earlier field trips to the 'Tops'.

Following this venture Rupp said of Hopson -

Many there are who can join me in testifying to the delightful experience of exploring the bush in company with John Hopson. His love of the mountains and everything they held of bird, mammal, insect or plant; his amazing knowledge of them (every spot he took me or directed me to, proved as he assured me it would be, "alive with orchids"); his kindly considerations, his ready interest in whatever was found; his quiet humour and gentle tolerations of idiosyncrasies; all these qualities endeared the man to everyone who came under the spell of his acquaintance.

H M R Rupp's personal papers.

A few months later on June 17 John Hopson died of heart failure - he rests in quiet Eccleston among the hills.

ECCLESTON – JOHN HOPSON MEMORIAL HALL OPENING CEREMONY

The whole of the Eccleston district assembled to take part in the opening of the John Hopson Memorial Hall. After singing and prayer, Mr W J Enright¹ of Maitland spoke feelingly of his association with Mr John Hopson, to whose memory the hall was dedicated. He recalled the wideness of his interests and the greatness of his work as a naturalist. His name was known not only all over Australia, but in Papua, England and America.

*Maitland Mercury 24 January 1930
Courtesy – Jack Sullivan – Newcastle*



“A STITCH IN TIME SAVES NINE”
Barrington Tablelands – 1923

John Hopson (Eccleston) mends the trousers of P Sim (Maitland) while police Inspector
W H Childs (Newcastle) rests.

Photo – Courtesy Dulcie Hartley – Fennell Bay

¹ Walter John Enright 1874 – 1949 – Maitland solicitor and “*amateur scientist of distinctly high calibre*” with special interests in local government, anthropology and modern languages.

JOHN HOPSON
THE ECCLESTON NATURALIST
(Appreciation by H J Carter)¹

The sudden death of John Hopson, of Dalkeith, Eccleston, while visiting his brother at Lostock on Sunday, June 17, takes from us a man who will be greatly missed by a wide circle of scientific friends as well as by those of his own district and circle.

The son of a well known pioneer in what was known in early days as the Upper Hunter, he and his many brothers and relatives own much of the fertile pasture lands along the valleys of the Allyn and Williams Rivers, where the cleared uplands and closely cultivated river flats testify to the big-hearted labours of those early settlers in what was then a densely timbered and heavy scrub land. But, besides the work of dairy and cattle tending, John Hopson had many interests. He was amongst the earlier fruit growers of the district, and his many visitors will bear witness to the fine quality of his oranges, peaches and apples, now being more generally cultivated. But far outside his own regions, John Hopson was known as a naturalist, besides being the best known guide, philosopher and friend to the tourists of the now famous Barrington Tops, that great "massif", whose cloud capped heights divide the waters of the Hunter from those of the Manning.

With a loving eye for bird, beast, or tree, John Hopson grew to know every track in this complex of ridge and gully, where his trained eye taught him that bush lore that comes only to the real nature lover. The writer first met him in December, 1915 when a member of a scientific expedition, organised by Mr W J Enright of West Maitland, and the late Charles Hedley, was guided by Mr Edwards, then owner of the well known Edwards Hut near the summit, and Mr. Hopson to the "tops" camping in the "Hut" for three days.

The interest awakened by the discoveries then made led to many others notably the Sydney University Expedition organised by Professor Harrison in January 1925. In this expedition, John Hopson took a notable part, giving his valuable bush lore in the camp work and life, frequently saving its members from semi-starvation by coming in with packs laden with apples, cakes and the like, and once bringing up boots from the local store for the University girls, whose city footwear had dissolved in the mountain storms.

Never was John Hopson happier than in the company of brother naturalists – especially those who could supply the book side to his knowledge won by observation. Each could help the other and it is difficult to say which party profited most by the interchange.

John Hopson discovered many interesting insects new to science and entomological specialists. Dr Ferguson in diptera (flies), Dr Waterhouse and Mr Goldfinch in lepidoptera (butterflies and moths) and Mr Carter in coleoptera (beetles) all were under a deep debt to him for his help here. Several of his discoveries bear his name. In October 1926 the RAOU (the birdmen) held their annual camp at the Upper Williams River and of course, John Hopson was as much at home here as amongst the entomologists. I do not think there was a bird or beast within twenty miles of Eccleston that John could not tell you about – its life history, its habits and the best way of

¹ H J Carter, an entomologist (Retired principal of Ascham, Darling Point and Joint Editor of the Australian Encyclopaedia.)

getting to see it, but not with a gun. I think the only people for whom John Hopson had a hard word were those so-called "sportsmen" who massacre everything they can hit. It was the same with plant life. Quite recently he led the Rev H M R Rupp on an orchid hunt on the Barrington Range and the result is a paper in the Linnean Society of N.S.W. describing a new species of dendrobium.

Both he and his son Lindsay, a Newington college 1st eleven were keen cricketers, and the local pitch was set in the home paddock at Dalkeith.

He will be long remembered as a loyal supporter of the Eccleston Congregational Church in which he sometimes supplied the lack of an absent preacher but on this side of his life he kept a shy reserve with outsiders as with so many men of sincere reverence. He had a smile and a word for every man, woman and child in his district, especially for the child with whom he was a prime favourite. Such men as he are of the salt of the earth and help to keep alive our faith in fallible human nature.

Maitland Mercury 28 June 1928
Courtesy - Margaret Dent

A specific bequest of a Collection of Entomological Specimens from the Hopson Estate was made to the Australian Museum in July 1928

19.7.1928

Received from the Executors of the Estate of John Hopson, deceased, late of "Dalkeith", Eccleston, in the State of New South Wales, the specific bequest of a Collection of Entomological Specimens, comprised of 3600 Specimens approximately, delivery of which has been taken in 15 store boxes and 3 glass cases.

For and on behalf of the

Trustees of the Australian Museum,
Sydney
(signed) Thomas Campbell
19.7.1928

Courtesy - Margaret Dent

The author had the privilege of access to the John Hopson Journals from Margaret Dent of Lostock in late 2004. It was a pleasure to read the many compliments written about John Hopson from such a wide range of visitors to his beloved "Tops".

JOHN DOIDGE TUCKER
1852-1939



Photo – Paterson Historical Society Collection

Finally I must include Mr and Mrs John Tucker of Paterson, whose unique fernery includes so many good things, and who, I verily believe, know every orchid of the Paterson hills.

H M R Rupp
Personal papers

John Tucker¹ was born in Paterson on 4 May 1852 and lived in the area all his life.

It is understandable that John Tucker and Rupp would form a strong and lasting friendship because of their love of and interest in the natural beauty of the Paterson River and surrounding hills.

John Tucker's other life-long interest was in the history of the area, which he also shared with Rupp.

John Tucker is best remembered for his contribution in purchasing and presenting to Dungog Shire Council a riverside area near his home and named in his honour - John Tucker Park.

¹ Further reading – The Parks of Paterson – P M Clements – PHS 2001

FAREWELL TO PATERSON

In his prodigious writing of letters Rupp chronicled feelings for St Paul's, his parishioners, valuable historical references and reveals the extent of his personal life and concerns.

The loss of orchids, ferns and his garden in the summer of 1929 had a devastating effect on Rupp.

In a poignant letter to George Scammell in January of that year, he expresses his melancholy.

*The Rectory, Paterson
23.1.29*

Dear George

*I haven't had the heart to write much since I came home. If you saw the ruin & desolation! Quite half my orchids & ferns are killed outright - including *S Fitzgeraldii*, *S Hartmannii*, & *S spathulatus* and several *Dendrobs* - the remainder look as though they were on the way to execution. And I can do nothing to save them - no water. The garden is gone, clean wiped out. As for the countryside - you might imagine you were at Broken Hill.*

It's a bit rough to lose the result of 4½ years patient labour. I have now much less orchid and fern material than I brought here from Bullahdelah: & as I say, the garden is gone. Young fruit-trees dead too. I don't think I'll start again here.

*I've been trying to console myself with George Robertson's presentation - copy of the *Austr. Encyclopaedia*! It's a jolly good production. I do not care for Miss Fweash's orchid picture - it's pretty but not accurate. And if that's *Den. superbiens* I'll eat my hat.*

With kind regards to you all

*Yours sincerely
H M R Rupp.*

When Rupp left Paterson at the end of 1929 the Parish was on a sound financial footing and a new church had been built!

The Parish of Weston became vacant "so we pulled up stakes at Paterson" and moved to St Mary's Rectory at Weston on the South Maitland coalfields - the area, Rupp was to discover with delight to be abundant with native ground orchids!

Treasures of An Orchid Herbarium

Rev. H.M.R. RUPP, Northbridge, N.S.W.

"Musty, dusty, shabby boxes of dead flowers and leaves that reek of naphthaline: what treasures can there be in a herbarium, except for a few botanists with a flair for long Latin names?" So scoffs the sceptic; but he is more truly a sceptic than he realises, for he simply "*does not know.*" To begin with, it is unnecessary for a herbarium to be either musty (whatever that may mean), dusty or shabby. Naphthaline, or some equally effective insect-deterrent, is perhaps inevitable. But my herbarium is not merely a receptacle of precious memories that now reach back for almost half a century.

Here is a sheet of specimens labelled "*Diuris punctata*: Wannon Falls, Vic., Nov., 1893." A long way back; but instantly I am there, in the western district of Victoria, forty-six years ago. A long sweep of green sward, a clear, swift running river; suddenly a yawning chasm of dark rocks breaking the green, and foaming waters thundering down into the basin a hundred feet below. Not far away, a youth stooping to pluck the lilac-hued *Diuris*. That is the picture my mind can see in this herbarium-sheet: and it has its background, too. A few miles away is the village of which Adam Lindsay Gordon sang in one of his rollicking ballads: -

On the fields of Coleraine there'll be labour in vain
Before the Great Western is ended!
The nags will be toiled and the silks will be soiled,
And the rails will require to be mended.

In memory I wander once more over the green hills of Coleraine, till they dip into another valley which, like that of the Wannon, sends its waters to swell Victoria's most westerly river, the Glenelg. This is the Wando, which you will find often mentioned in Bentham's "*Flora Australiensis*," though he misspells it "*Wendu.*" For here, at Wando Vale, was the home of J.G. Robertson, a noted early Victorian botanical collector. A few miles upstream was Wando Dale, owned by Robertson's nephew, William Moodie, father of one of our Orchid Society members. There I spent many a happy day in my youth, rambling with young Moodies in search of "spider" Orchids and other delectable wildflowers. All this is the background of the *Diuris* sheet.

Here, again, is *Caleana major*, the Duck Orchid, labelled "Buninyong, Vic., Dec., 1896." And it carries me back to 'Varsity vacations spent at my father's rectory, and long rambles over rough hills still scarred with the wounds of the first gold rush in Victoria; and the excitement of my first "find" of *Chiloglottis Gunnii*, with its quaint gnome-like flowers; and a scramble up Mount Buninyong itself, there to come upon a colony of the biggest Greenhoods I have ever seen (many years later to be known as the Sickie Greenhood, *Pterostylis falcate*).

And here is another sheet of the same period, which brings back to me the thrill and joy of my first sight of an epiphyte growing; the dainty little *Sarcochilus parviflorus* tangled in a twiggy *Coprosma* at Fern Tree Gully in the Dandenongs. The Dandenongs were all primeval forest then, and how lovely they were!

Here is a "spider" Orchid from the Victorian Grampians, which brings to mind a camping expedition with two old schoolmates, one of whom later became a distinguished

Imperial civil servant, Sir Charles Belcher. The other, I remember, scared the wits out of us by getting bogged in a treacherous swamp, from which he was rescued in the nick of time by an old duck-hunter.

This is a fine raceme of *Cymbidium canaliculatum*; and it came from the first *Cymbidium* I had ever seen. I remember perfectly where I found it - on a box-eucalypt at the back of the range overlooking Tamworth, in northern New South Wales.

Here is another Sickle Greenhood, this time from the foothills of Mount Barrow, in Tasmania, recalling a delightful fortnight spent there in 1922. On the next sheet is yet another, labelled "Barrington Tops, N.S.W.," a far call from Mount Barrow. Barrington Tops is ever associated in my memory not merely with glorious views and Orchids galore, but with the companionship of the late John Hopson, Eccleston farmer and orchardist, entomologist and lover of Nature, and a man whose friendship was beyond value. Nothing gave him more pleasure than to pilot a fellow-naturalist through those mountains and valleys, which he knew so thoroughly and loved so deeply. Every now and then he would vault off his horse and an old log would be rolled over, and into the collecting-bottle would go some unfortunate beetle, destined perhaps for a museum on the other side of the world. "I think," he would say, "if we were to try a spot I know a couple of miles over yonder, maybe we might find an Orchid or two." And he was always right, except that "one or two" was an absurdly moderate estimate.

And so, you see, there is more in an herbarium than meets the eye; for nearly every sheet has its memories of joyous rambles and good companions in days gone by. Many of my specimens, of course, are not of my own collecting; but these, too, are valued for far more than their botanical interest. For do they not continually remind me of the kindness of many good friends, who have thought of me in their own rambles, sometimes as much as a thousand miles away, and have said, "He shall share"? When I look at the specimens, living or dried, and the books, and the paintings, and the photographs, which are the gifts of friendships that have come to me through Orchids, how can I be other than an Orchid-lover.



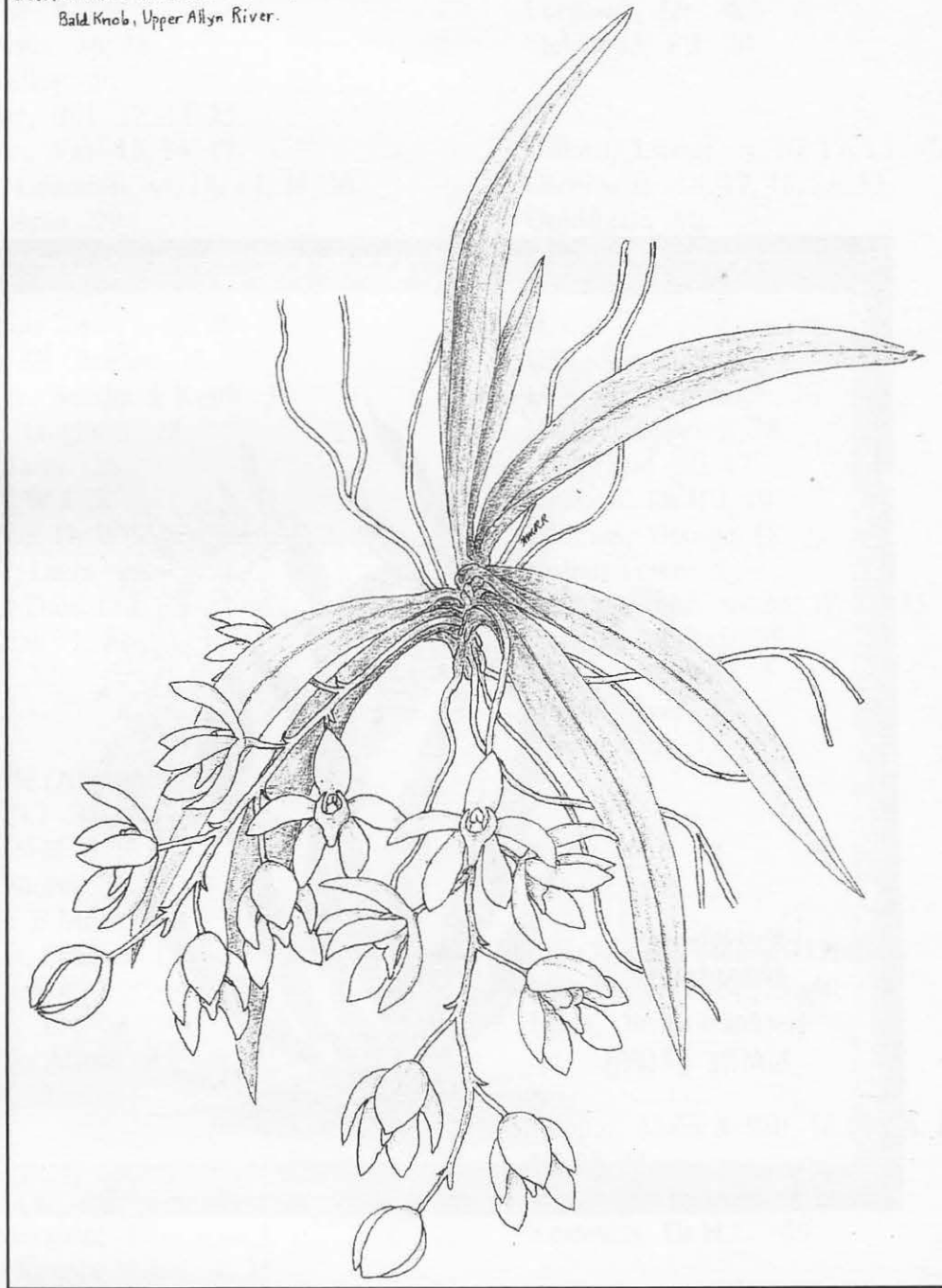
Cymbidium Suaue
Sketch - Val Anderson

On retirement Rupp lived in Sydney still retaining his strong interest in cultivating and writing about native orchids and working as honorary curator at the National Herbarium of New South Wales.



Dendrobium elongatum
(=*Dendrobium gracilicaule*)
Bulladelah – NSW – September
HMRR

SARCOCHILUS FALCATUS R.Br.
Cream-coloured form with tuberose perfume.
Bald Knob, Upper Allyn River.



Original art work by Rev H M R Rupp
Used on the cover of "The Orchid Man" - Lionel Gilbert - 1992
(dated on back 1928)
Donated by Lionel Gilbert to Paterson Historical Society - 1993

Rupp's original 1928 sketch of *Sarcochilus falcatus*
Rupp display
Paterson Court House Museum
Courtesy - Lionel Gilbert



Dendrobium ruppianum
(now *Dendrobium jonesii*)

Sketch – Val Anderson
Rupp display Paterson Court House Museum

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In Memoriam
John Jennings Smith

1782-1846. *Pioneer Parish Priest of the Paterson-Allyn Valleys, 1839-1846.*

JOHN JENNINGS SMITH, after graduating M.A. at Catherine Hall, Cambridge, was ordained in 1823. He had previously been a schoolmaster. In 1831 he was Lecturer at St. Mary's, Chiswick, near London, where he became one of the instructors of the PRINCESS VICTORIA, by whom he was highly esteemed. After her accession, Queen Victoria helped him to achieve his desire for a Colonial Chaplaincy. He arrived with his family at Sydney in 1839, and was at once offered by the Bishop of Australia the Archdeaconry of Hobart Town. He chose instead a missionary task as pastor of a large area of new settlement in the Paterson and Allyn Valleys, N.S.W. Here for 7 years he laboured incessantly, enduring hardship, establishing schools and churches, and shepherding his scattered flock. St. Paul's Church, Paterson, and St. Mary's Church, Allynbrook, are enduring testimonials to his work. The former he built in great part at his own cost. An accident brought his devoted life to a close in 1846.

This leaflet, issued by the present Rector and Wardens of St. Paul's, Paterson, is an appeal for co-operation in honouring the memory of one whose character and achievements we have too long left in oblivion. It is addressed primarily to those who have entered into the fruit of his labours directly—the Members of the Church of England in the Paterson and Allyn Valleys. But we hope it will receive sympathetic response from a wider public, including members and friends of the Jennings-Smith family, descendants of other pioneers, and others who cherish sentiments of respect and gratitude for the men who "blazed the trail" in the early days.

In the churchyard of St. Paul's is Jennings Smith's Cenotaph, long neglected, and ravaged by time. Seven years ago the old Church itself, his chief monument, had to be entirely re-roofed at a cost of £500. It is a stone building, and during the re-roofing nearly a third of the plaster on the N. wall collapsed. Funds have been inadequate to complete the restoration of this wall, and a small marble tablet recording the bare fact of Jennings Smith's incumbency has not been replaced.

It is proposed to thoroughly repair and renovate the Cenotaph, complete the wall work, and replace the tablet, adding another beneath and fixing both on a black marble setting. On the lower tablet will be inscribed: "THIS TABLET WAS ADDED A.D. 1929 TO RECORD HIS ZEAL AND DEVOTION IN THE ERECTION OF THIS CHURCH, THE COST OF WHICH WAS PROVIDED IN GREAT PART FROM HIS PRIVATE RESOURCES. THE CHURCH WAS CONSECRATED BY THE LORD BISHOP OF AUSTRALIA ON THE 27th NOVEMBER, 1845." The estimate for all this work is in round figures £50. Towards this we have a sum of £18 available from a small legacy received from the estate of the late Mrs. Alfred Cory, a grand-daughter of Jennings Smith. We therefore need £32, and we confidently appeal to those into whose hands this leaflet may come to help us in doing honour to this fine old Pioneer of the Church. Contributions may be sent to the undersigned and cheques made payable "St. Paul's Church A/c: Paterson." It is hoped to complete the memorial work in time for a special service on Nov. 27, the 84th Anniversary of the Consecration of the Church, and the Bishop of Newcastle will endeavour to be present. The Rector of Paterson and the Rev. Dr. Elkin are preparing an illustrated history of the Church in the Valleys.

For the Rector and Wardens,

H M. R. RUPP,

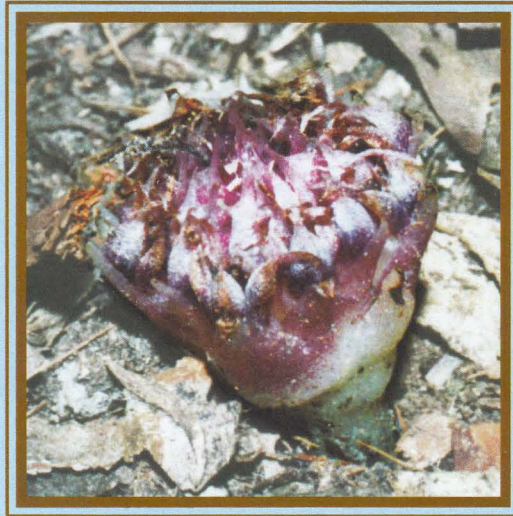
Rector of Paterson,

June, 1929.

TIPPER, PRINTER, HATFIELD

132
 H. T. ADGE
 28-2-201 - V.A. ARCHIVE TEXT
 FURNOPRST P

Rev HMR Rupp's 1929 request to parishioners for financial support to complete memorial work at St Paul's Church, Paterson honouring the work of Rev John Jennings Smith.



© Bill Dowling

“The most remarkable subterranean Orchid was discovered in 1931 at Bullahdelah.

*I shall always count myself exceptionally fortunate in that the first specimen of this extraordinary Orchid was sent to me. I gave it the name *Cryptanthemis slateri* (renamed *Rhizanthella slateri*).*

Shall we ever trace the causes which impelled this Orchid to its’ underground career?”

- Rev. HMR Rupp, 1938

HMR Rupp.